

ROYAL PAIN

-FirebreaksoutaboardRoyal Caribbean cruise ship.

KASEY JONES

Associated Press

BALTIMORE (AP) — A fire broke out aboard a Royal Caribbean cruise ship en route to the Bahamas early Monday, but the ship arrived in Freeport with no injuries reported.

Mark J. Ormesher said in an email Monday that a



The fire-damaged exterior of Royal Caribbean's Grandeur of the Seas cruise ship is seen while docked in Freeport, Grand Bahama island, Monday, May 27, 2013.

(AP Photo/Jenney Russell)

Grandeur of the Seas crew member woke him and his girlfriend, told them to grab a floatation device and said it wasn't a drill. Ormesher said he smelled smoke.

The British-born Ormesher posted about the event on Facebook and emailed details to The Associated Press. The damage at the rear of the ship "looks bad," Ormesher said. Burned-out equipment was visible.

Royal Caribbean said the fire occurred on the mooring area of deck 3 early Monday and was quickly extinguished. Royal Caribbean said all 2,224 guests and 796 crew were safe and accounted for.

A cause of the fire wasn't immediately known.

The ship had sailed from the U.S. on Friday. The National Transportation Safety Board said in a tweet that it will join the U.S. Coast Guard in investigating the fire.

Royal Caribbean International president and CEO Adam Goldstein met with passengers in Freeport. □

True Colors



Americans gather to honor fallen service members

A couple photograph themselves amongst a sea of flags on Boston Common in Boston, Sunday, May 26, 2013. The flags were placed by the Massachusetts Military Heroes Fund in memory of every fallen Massachusetts service member from the Civil War to the present.

(AP Photo/Michael Dwyer)

The Associated Press

(AP) - Americans gathered at memorials, museums and monuments and the president laid a wreath at Arlington National Cemetery to honor fallen service members on Memorial Day, as combat in Afghanistan approaches 12 years and the ranks of World War II veterans dwindle.

"Let us not forget as we gather here today that our nation is still at war," President Barack Obama said after laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

"When they give their lives, they are still being laid to rest in cemeteries in quiet corners across our country, including here in Arlington," he said. He told the stories of three soldiers who had

died. Each had been devoted to their mission and were praised by others for saving lives.

Earlier in the morning, he and first lady Michelle Obama hosted a breakfast at the White House with "Gold Star" families of service members who have been killed.

Another wreath-laying ceremony was at Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Park on the southern tip of Roosevelt Island in New York City. The park is a tribute to President Roosevelt's famous speech calling for all people to enjoy freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want and freedom from fear.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg

joined military leaders and others at the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument in Manhattan. He said celebrate the day and the good weather but also "remember the sacrifice that was made so that we could be here."

At the National World War II Museum in New Orleans, about 20 bicyclists clustered around veteran and museum volunteer Tom Blakey. The paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division jumped at Normandy on D-Day — June 6, 1944 — and in May 1945 helped liberate the work camp at Wobbelin in northwest Germany.

"Most of us wondered why we were there, killing people and being killed," he

said.

"We didn't do anything to deserve it. When we got to that camp and saw what was there, the lights came on."

The cycling group makes regular weekend training runs, and on Monday started a Memorial Day ride about seven miles away at the national cemetery in Chalmette, where the Battle of New Orleans — the last in the War of 1812 — was fought.

"I'm glad I took this ride to hear a personal story," Scott Gumina, 41, said. "Hearing one man's account of his personal experience was pretty impressive to me."

Continued on Page 2

Americans gather to honor fallen service members

Continued from front

Across much of New England, several days of heavy rain gave way to sunny skies for parades in towns large and small.

In Portland, Maine, kids and even pets displayed the Stars and Stripes as veterans, youth groups law enforcement officials and civic organizations paraded to Monument Square to the tunes of a marching band, sirens from a police car and the rumble of motorcycles.

"It's a very important day, not only for the Veteran of Foreign Wars but every veteran organization, every branch of the service, and every patriot in general — every American. This day is hugely significant and should never be forgotten," said David Olson, 66, of Portland, the VFW's state senior vice commander.

He said he was pleased to see a large turnout of youngsters, both in the parade and along the parade route. "As they get older, they'll realize exactly why we do this," he said. For some veterans, it was a somber event.

Richard Traiser, a Marine injured when his tank came under attack in Vietnam,

helped deliver a three-volley salute with the Marine Corps League.

Memorial Day gives those who served an opportunity

In Connecticut, a Waterford man who was killed in the Vietnam War was honored with a hometown park area named

hold a parade because of failing health and dwindling numbers. The city of Beverly called off its parade because so few vet-

around the park's flagpole. The holiday weekend also marked the traditional start of the U.S. vacation season. AAA, one of the nation's largest leisure travel agencies, expected 31.2 million Americans to hit the road over the weekend, virtually the same number as last year. Gas prices were about the same as last year, up 1 cent to a national average of \$3.65 a gallon Friday.

At the American Airpower Museum on Long Island, N.Y., a program honored Women Air Service Pilots, or WASPs, who tested and ferried completed aircraft from factories to bases during World War II. Thirty-eight died during the war, including Alice Lovejoy of Scarsdale, N.Y., who was killed on Sept. 13, 1944, in a midair collision over Texas.

"It's very important that we recognize not only their contribution to American history, but women's history," said Julia Lauria-Blum, curator of the WASP exhibit at the museum. "These women really blazed a path; they were pioneers for women's aviation. And most important, they gave their lives serving their country and must be honored like anyone else on Memorial Day." □



President Barack Obama talks with Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel, center, and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin Dempsey, left, as they wait to deliver their Memorial Day remarks at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va., Monday, May 27, 2013.

(AP Photo/Cliff Owen)

nity to get together and remember friends who didn't make it.

"I think about them a lot, especially the people I lost in my platoon," Traiser said.

"A couple of kids were 19 years old. I don't dwell on it in a morbid way, but it's on your mind."

for him. Arnold E. Holm Jr., nicknamed "Dusty," was killed when his helicopter was shot down on June 11, 1972. A group of at least 100 dedicated the park this weekend. In suburban Boston, veterans gathered in a park to mark Memorial Day this year rather than

erans would be able to march. The parade has been a fixture in the town since the Civil War. In Atlanta, a dedication of the History Center's redone Veterans Park was scheduled for early evening. Soil from major battlefields will be scattered by veterans

Chile issues red alert over Copahue volcano



This photo released by the Government of Neuquen, Monday, May 27, 2013, shows a plume of ash and smoke rise from the Copahue volcano, as seen from Caviahue, in the Argentine province of Neuquen.

(AP Photo/Tony Huglich)

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — Chile issued a red alert Monday for the Copahue volcano on the border with Argentina that has become increasingly active. Chile's Interior and Security Minister Andres Chadwick said the increased activity could lead to an eruption and officials will soon begin evacuating 2,240 people, or 460 families, in a 25 kilometer (15.5 mile) radius.

"This evacuation is obligatory; it's not voluntary," Chadwick told reporters. Chile's Emergency Office says the evacuation could last about 48 hours, but could be delayed because of heavy rains.

The nearly 10,000-foot (2,965-meter) volcano sits in the Andes cordillera, straddling the border

with Argentina's Neuquen province. Argentine officials have issued a yellow alert. They flew over the area during the weekend and are monitoring the volcano with a network of web cameras. Access to the volcano is closed within a 4-kilometer (2.5-mile) radius on the Argentine side, but nearby towns, including Villa de Caviahue, are open for business.

The Copahue started spewing ash and gas in December, prompting a red alert then. The volcano had a major eruption in 1992, according to the Mining Ministry's Serenageomin geology unit. It became highly active with blasts and gases in 2002, in its strongest activity in more than 20 years. □

Senator McCain makes trip to Syria to visit rebels

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Senator John McCain, a leading proponent of arming the rebels in Syria, quietly slipped into the coun-

try for a meeting with them on Monday. Spokeswoman Rachael Dean confirmed the Republican made the visit

but declined further comment. Gen. Salem Idris, chief of the Supreme Military Council of the Free Syrian Army,

accompanied McCain across the Turkey-Syria border. McCain met with leaders of the Free Syrian Army from across the country, who asked him for increased U.S. support, including heavy weapons, a no-fly zone and airstrikes on Syrian government and Hezbollah forces, according to The Daily Beast, which first reported the senator's unannounced visit.

The visit took place amid meetings in Paris involving efforts to secure the participation of Syria's fractured opposition in an international peace conference in Geneva.

And the European Union decided late Monday to lift the arms embargo on the Syrian opposition while maintaining all other sanctions against President Bashar Assad's regime after June 1, British Foreign Secretary William Hague said following the meeting. Two years of violence in Syria have killed more than 70,000 people. President

Barack Obama has demanded that Assad leave power, while Russia has stood by Syria, its closest ally in the Arab world.

McCain has been outspoken in favor of aggressive military steps against the Assad regime.

He has criticized Obama administration policy there while stopping short of backing U.S. ground troops in Syria.

The White House did not respond to a request for comment.

A State Department official said the department was aware of McCain crossing into Syrian territory, but further questions were referred to McCain's office.

Last Tuesday, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted to provide weapons to rebels in Syria, as well as military training to vetted rebel groups and sanctions against anyone who sells oil or transfers arms to the Assad regime. McCain is a member of the committee. □



Republican Sen. John McCain during a TV interview, at the World Economic Forum, held at the King Hussein Bin Talal Convention center, in Southern Shuneh, 34 miles (55 kilometers) southeast of Amman, Jordan. McCain has quietly slipped into Syria for a meeting with Syrian rebels, spokeswoman Rachael Dean confirmed Monday, May 27, 2013.

(AP Photo/Mohammad Hannon)

Bridge collapse major break in US-Canada corridor

Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — Last week's bridge collapse on the major highway connecting Seattle with western Canada and was more than a close brush with tragedy. As much as \$20 billion in freight travels to and from Canada and along the busy north-south corridor each year.

"It's a huge commercial artery," said Don Alper, director of the Border Policy Research Institute at Western Washington University. "If things happen to it, it can have huge economic ramifications."

Gov. Jay Inslee announced a plan Sunday to have temporary spans installed across the Skagit River in three weeks that would be able to handle cargo trucks, but the remaining spans must clear inspection before that work can begin.

Alternative routes around the bridge that collapsed Thursday, injuring three people, will slow freight significantly.



Southbound Interstate 5 traffic is routed off the highway and onto a local road north of the collapsed portion of the Interstate 5 bridge, at the Skagit River, in Mount Vernon, Wash. A truck carrying an oversize load struck the four-lane bridge on the major thoroughfare between Seattle and Canada, sending a section of the span and two vehicles into the Skagit River below late last week.

(AP Photo/Elaine Thompson)

The Canadian border north of the collapse is the fourth busiest U.S. land border port of entry to the north. Agriculture products, lumber, lumber-related products and manufactured goods related to aircraft dominate the freight crossing this Washington-Canada border.

Close to \$10 billion in freight involves business as far away as California and Mexico, Alper estimated. Of the 71,000 vehicles that cross the Skagit River bridge daily, an estimated 12 percent is commercial traffic, said Sen. Maria Cantwell.

In 2012, nearly 1.9 million

Canadian vehicles crossed that bridge. Those numbers have increased significantly since 2001, with Canadian traffic coming south more than doubling during that time.

Shippers can change their plans and ship by rail, air or water, but those options are more expensive

and could have different economic impacts on the region.

"Containers might be diverted from the Port of Seattle or the Port of Oakland to Vancouver," Alper said, referring to Vancouver, British Columbia. "But I think it's too early to really go down that path." □



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NYC bike share program opens after long delay

MATT FLEGENHEIMER

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NEW YORK - New York City introduced its long-awaited bike share system Monday, supplying thousands of bikes, scattered across more than 300 stations, for

share system was greeted on Monday with a mixture of hope and trepidation. It is the crowning, valedictory piece of Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's extensive investment in cycling, in which the city has added

meant that few commuters were on the road, subscribers were ubiquitous early Monday afternoon - the man in the flannel shirt and white-frame sunglasses, gliding in light traffic on Avenue of the Americas; the

Mohanty, 25, who live a short walk from Washington Square Park, decided to venture into the East Village for lunch.

"I need a helmet," Mohanty said upon her return. "I haven't ridden a bike in years."

"It's like riding a bike," O'Malley said.

John Braut, 43, from Midtown, conducted a trial run from West 49th Street to West 41st Street before 11 a.m., though had some difficulty checking the bike back into the station. Finally, he found a working dock. "They've got to get some kinks out," he said, adding that he hoped to use the system to commute home from work in Lower Manhattan.

Several riders used a stop at Fulton Ferry Landing in Brooklyn, pedaling in the early afternoon sunlight on their day off. Jeff Genshaft, 54, from Park Slope, said he planned to use the program to shorten his commute to the Far West Side of Manhattan.

"I'm opting out of the M42," he said.

Even before the program began, residents seemed drawn to the bikes, which began appearing in neat rows late last week. Couples strolled past, pointing out the slots where the keys would go. Children hopped aboard to test the seats.

Some New Yorkers simply rested on the backs of

station docks - a maneuver, for all the grievances over parking spaces lost to bikes, that would likely not be tried aboard the hood of a private car.

While residents have said the system may upend their commutes, turning what were once car trips into bike rides, or perhaps combinations of cycling and subway travel, Monday was largely an exception. The city chose to open the system to annual members on a holiday, when there would be relatively light vehicular traffic. Only members can use the bikes until Sunday, at which point weekly and daily passes will become available.

Once the entire scheme is operating, it is likely that many less experienced riders will find their way into the cycling fold. Over the weekend, veteran riders urged patience.

"It'll be frustrating and nerve-racking sharing the road with novice @CitiBike-NYC users and drivers enraged by them," Steve Vaccaro, a cycling advocate and lawyer in the city, posted on Twitter. Riders, he cautioned, "gotta keep cool."

Even Bloomberg acknowledged that "teething pains" would await the program's initial days. One bike was stolen on Sunday, officials said, apparently as crews were placing part of the fleet in the stations. (Asked about the theft, Bloomberg quipped, "I'm sure that's the first bicycle that's been stolen in this city.")

Several annual members, some of whom registered weeks ago, did not receive keys in time for the first day, as promised. Dani Simons, the system's director of marketing and external affairs, estimated that a few hundred keys had been lost in delivery out of 11,000. □



Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Janette Sadik-Khan, left, the New York City Department of Transportation commissioner, during a news conference to officially launch the city's new bike-sharing program outside City Hall in New York, May 27, 2013. New York City officially introduced its bike-sharing system on Monday, which has thousands of bicycles stationed in parts of Manhattan and Brooklyn for use by people paying a membership fee. Michele Imbasciani, right, of Citibank, the lead corporate sponsor of the program. (Michael Appleton/The New York Times)

public use in parts of Manhattan and Brooklyn. With the program's arrival, officials believe they have plugged some decades-old gaps in a city whose transportation network has at times strained to match its growth.

Faster than a crosstown bus and cheaper than the subway - at least for annual members - the bike

more than 350 miles of bike lanes in recent years under the stewardship of Janette Sadik-Khan, the city's transportation commissioner.

"Are we ready?" Bloomberg asked at a news conference late Monday morning, held beside a bike station near City Hall. A chorus of bell-ringing followed.

Though Monday's holiday

woman teetering, helmetless, onto Broadway from Park Place, then steadying herself; the father and son on Fulton Street in Brooklyn, the child not yet old enough to rent one of the new blue bikes.

Many residents tested the system, called Citi Bike, despite having nowhere in particular to go. Devin O'Malley, 27, and Sarita

2 dead, 5 injured in Texas shooting spree

EDEN, Texas (AP) — Two people are dead and five injured after a gunman in Texas shot at several vehicles, apparently at random, authorities said Monday. The Texas Department of Public Safety said the gunman was among the dead. His identity was not re-

leased, but authorities said he was a 23-year-old. DPS said the shootings began early Sunday when the gunman shot a motorist. Over the next 90 minutes, he was suspected of shooting two people who were sitting in a car at a convenience store and then another motorist. Then a 41-year-old woman, Alicia

Torres, was found dead in her car. The suspect fired on the vehicle of Concho County Sheriff Richard Doane when the sheriff came upon him, according to DPS. Doane was wounded and hospitalized. A state trooper and game warden then found and exchanged gunfire with the

suspect, who was killed. An assault rifle, handgun and hundreds of rounds of ammunition were recovered, DPS said. Concho County authorities deferred comment Monday to the DPS office in Austin. Phone messages left there were not immediately returned. □

U.S. Legal Column:

Justices agree to agree, at least for the moment

ADAM LIPTAK

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WASHINGTON - There has been a remarkable outbreak of harmony at the Supreme Court. Of the seven decisions issued in the Past two weeks, six were unanimous.

There have been no dissents in more than 60 percent of the 46 cases decided so far this term. At this point last year, the justices were unanimous just 48 percent of the time, according to statistics compiled by Scotusblog. In the two terms before that, 52 percent of the cases decided by now were unanimous.

The harmony will dissipate in the final weeks of the term, which will probably conclude in late June. It is the divisive and hard-fought decisions that take the longest to produce, as the justices exchange draft opinions and respond to one other in evolving majority opinions, concurrences and dissents.

The marquee decisions of the term - on affirmative action, voting rights and same-sex marriage - will almost certainly be closely divided on the core issues. But the overall percentage of unanimous decisions is unlikely to drop to 40 percent, the average rate for full terms in recent years.

For now, consensus reigns. That is partly because some of the recent decisions were decidedly minor. One, concerning a towed car, would not have been out of place in small claims court or before Judge Judy. Another, about the meaning of the word "defalcation" in the Bankruptcy Code, must have made Justice Stephen G. Breyer, its author, wonder what he

had done to deserve the assignment.

But the justices were unanimous in significant cases, too. They let Monsanto protect its patented genetically modified soybeans and allowed U.S. companies

opinion.

Such authentically unanimous decisions are built to last. By contrast, when the justices agree on the result but disagree about the reasons for it, the majority opinion has less force. Pamela

C. Corley, a political scientist at Southern Methodist University, wrote a 2010 book on Supreme Court concurrences, of all things, and she found that majority opinions undermined by such concurrences are

less likely to be followed in lower-court decisions and in later ones from the Supreme Court.

How do the same justices who issue the bitterly contested decisions in headline-grabbing cases manage to agree so often? A new book with an apt title - "The Puzzle of Unanimity: Consensus on the United States Supreme Court" - surveys the territory and suggests some answers.

For starters, the justices know that unanimous rulings carry more weight. That is why Chief Justice Earl Warren worked so hard to unite the court in 1954 in *Brown v. Board of Education*, the school desegregation case, and why President Richard M. Nixon found it hard to argue with the unanimous decision ordering him to turn over the Watergate tapes.

A divided decision, Judge Learned Hand wrote in 1958, "cancels the impact of monolithic solidarity on which the authority of a bench of judges so largely depends." □



Members of the Supreme Court at the Supreme Court in Washington. The Supreme Court justices have issued unusually harmonious decisions this term, with six of the last seven being unanimous and no dissents in more than 60 percent of the 46 cases decided so far this term. Pictured, from left: Justice Clarence Thomas, Justice Sonia Sotomayor, Justice Antonin Scalia, Justice Stephen Breyer, Chief Justice John Roberts, Justice Samuel Alito, Justice Anthony Kennedy, Justice Elena Kagan and Justice Ruth Ginsburg.

(Doug Mills/The New York Times)

credits for some taxes paid abroad. Both times, the sums at stake were easily in the hundreds of millions of dollars. The recent unanimous cases are noteworthy for a second reason: Many truly speak with a single voice. The court led by Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. has set records for faux unanimity, where the justices agree on the result but barnacle the majority opinion with concurrences expressing caveats, interpretive glosses or wholly different rationales.

The recent unanimous cases are different. In five of the six, there was just one



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The Statue of Liberty, in New York City.
(Handout Photo)

New Statue of Liberty security risky: senator

NEW YORK (AP) — New security plans for the Statue of Liberty could leave visitors vulnerable when it re-opens July 4, New York officials said Monday.

Sen. Charles Schumer and New York Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly called for the National Park Service to reverse its plan, which calls for visitors to board boats in either lower Manhattan or New Jersey and stop at nearby Ellis Island for security.

Previously, passengers were screened with airport-style metal detectors before they boarded boats for Liberty Island.

"This screening was put in just after the horrific events of Sept. 11. And I can tell you, in our judgment, the threat has not abated," Kelly said.

Terrorist groups, he added, "have an interest in targeting locations that represent America."

Kelly said he has written to the secretary of the interior about the issue.

Park service representatives did not immediately respond to comment requests.

The statue was closed after Superstorm Sandy late last year. Storm surges flooded Liberty Island, destroying boilers and electrical systems, but the statue, which is on higher ground, remained intact. □

US intelligence embraces debate in security issues

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the months leading up to the killing of Osama bin Laden, veteran U.S. intelligence analyst Robert Cardillo cast doubt that the terror network leader and mastermind was actually in a high-walled compound in northern Pakistan.

President Barack Obama

cies as they try to piece together security threats from bits of vague information from around the world. But they also raise concerns about whether officials who make decisions based on their assessments can get clear guidance from a divided intelligence community.

At the helm of what he calls

with a perfect set of facts," Clapper said. "You know the old saw about the difference between mysteries and secrets? Of course, we're held equally responsible for divining both. And so those imponderables like that just have to be factored."

Looking in from the outside, the dissension can seem

House announced that U.S. intelligence concluded that Syrian President Bashar Assad has probably used deadly chemical weapons at least twice in his country's fierce civil war. But White House officials said the intelligence wasn't strong enough to justify sending significant U.S. military support to Syrian rebels who are fighting Assad's regime.

Because the U.S. has few sources to provide first-hand information in Syria, the intelligence agencies split on how confident they were that Assad had deployed chemical weapons. The best they could do was conclude that the Syrian regime, at least, probably had undertaken such an effort. This put Obama in the awkward political position of having said the use of chemical weapons would cross a "red line" and have "enormous consequences," but not moving on the news of chemical weapons use, when the occasion arose, because the intelligence was murky.

Lamborn said he welcomes an internal intelligence community debate but is concerned that the North Korean threat was brushed aside.

"If they want to argue among themselves, that's fine," said Lamborn, a member of the House Armed Services Committee. However, he also said, "We should be cautious when evaluating different opinions, and certainly give credence to the more sobering possibilities. ... When it comes to national security, I don't think we want to have rose-colored glasses on, and sweep threats under the rug."

Current and former U.S. intelligence officials say the vigorous internal debate was spawn from a single mistake about a threat — and an overly aggressive response. Congress demanded widespread intelligence reform after the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks to fix a system where agencies hoarded threat information instead of routinely sharing it. □



FBI Director Robert Mueller, from left, National Intelligence Director James Clapper, CIA Director John Brennan, and Defense Intelligence Agency Director Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn testify on Capitol Hill in Washington at the Senate Intelligence Committee hearing on worldwide threats.

(AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

ultimately decided to launch a May 2011 raid on the compound that killed bin Laden. But the level of widespread skepticism that Cardillo shared with other top-level officials — which nearly scuttled the raid — reflected a sea change within the U.S. spy community, one that embraces debate on tough national security decisions. The same sort of high-stakes dissent was on public display recently as intelligence officials wrestled with conflicting opinions about threats in North Korea and Syria. And it is a vital part of ongoing discussions over whether to send deadly drone strikes against terror suspects abroad — including U.S. citizens.

The three cases provide a rare look inside the secretive 16 intelligence agen-

a healthy discord is Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, who has spent more than two-thirds of his 72 years collecting, analyzing and reviewing spy data from war zones and rogue nations. Clapper, the nation's fourth top intelligence chief, says disputes are uncommon but absolutely necessary to get as much input as possible in far-flung places where it's hard for the U.S. to extract — or fully understand — ground-level realities.

"What's bad about dissension? Is it a good thing to have uniformity of view where everyone agrees all the time? I don't think so," Clapper told The Associated Press in an interview Friday. "...People lust for uniform clairvoyance. We're not going to do that."

"We are never dealing

awkward, if not uneasy — especially when the risks are so high.

At a congressional hearing last month, Rep. Doug Lamborn read from a Defense Intelligence Agency report suggesting North Korea is able to arm long-range missiles with nuclear warheads. The April 11 disclosure, which had been mistakenly declassified, came at the height of Kim Jong Un's sabre-rattling rhetoric and raised fears that U.S. territory or Asian nations could be targeted for an attack.

Within hours, Clapper announced that the DIA report did not reflect the opinions of the rest of the intelligence community, and that North Korea was not yet fully capable of launching a nuclear-armed missile.

Two weeks later, the White

Gettysburg readies for 150th anniversary of battle



Richard Baldino, right, accompanied by Dave Morris, both portraying army surgeons with the 2nd Division 11th Corps Army of Potomac, cleans out his pipe at the George Spangler Farm that served as a field hospital during the Civil War, in Gettysburg, Pa. Tens of thousands of visitors are expected for the 10-day schedule of events that begin June 29 to mark 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg that took that took place July 1-3, 1863.

(AP Photo/Matt Rourke)

GENARO C. ARMAS
Associated Press
GETTYSBURG, Pennsylvania (AP) — The commemoration of this year's milestone anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg will include amenities that soldiers would have relished 150 years ago — expanded cellphone coverage and dozens of portable toilets. The National Park Service and a cadre of community organizers are busily putting the finishing touches on preparations for the commemoration of the pivotal battle of the American Civil War that cemented this small Pennsylvania town's place in U.S. history. Tens of thousands of visitors are expected for a 10-day schedule of events that begin June 29. "I think we're ready," Bob Kirby, superintendent of Gettysburg National Military Park, said in a recent interview. "We're ready for what the world would like to see." But that doesn't neces-

sarily mean just flooding the historical 6,000-acre (2,400-hectare) battlefield, and surrounding town, with the modern comforts of home. To help visitors better understand what happened at the Battle of Gettysburg on July 1-3, 1863, the National Park Service first decided to look back. There were about 51,000 casualties at Gettysburg, considered a major turning point of the war between Northern states and secessionist pro-slavery Southern states known as the Confederacy. At Gettysburg, Northern forces turned back a Confederate advance. In the years and decades that followed, natural and man-made changes altered the landscape. The Home Sweet Home Motel that once stood across the street from a monument for Ohio soldiers just didn't provide the right feel. The forest that had grown in the distance from a Minnesota monument didn't

accurately represent the thicket-laden terrain that soldiers encountered 150 years ago.

The battlefield rehabilitation process grew out of a master plan in 1999 that didn't set the 150th anniversary in 2013 as a deadline — though it was a welcome and timely coincidence. The rehab work, which is mostly complete, is concentrated on areas of "major battle action."

"You can't ever go back in time to 1863, but you can deal with the major features so you can better understand the story," Kirby said.

Other fresh elements have been added in recent years, including an airy visitor center that opened in 2008, operated by the Gettysburg Foundation on behalf of and in partnership with the National Park Service.

It's bound to attract scores of newcomers as well as repeat visitors. The park typically attracts 1.2 million visitors a year — a mark that park officials expect to easily exceed. □



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Britain:

EU ends arms embargo on Syrian opposition

**JAMEY
RAF CASERT**

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — The European Union has decided to lift the arms embargo on the Syrian opposition while maintaining all other sanctions against President Bashar Assad's regime after June 1, British Foreign Secretary William Hague said late Monday.

The decision "sends a very strong message from Europe to the Assad regime," Hague said after an all-day meeting that laid bare EU hesitation on feeding arms in a foreign conflict only months after it won the Nobel Peace Prize.

Hague insisted that Britain had "no immediate plans to send arms to Syria. It gives us flexibility to respond in the future if the situation continues to deteriorate."

No other EU member appeared to have immediate plans to send arms to the rebels. "I have not detected any readiness from anyone at this time to contemplate that particular option," Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt said.

Britain and France — the EU's biggest military powers — had been pushing the bloc to lift its embargo on delivery of weapons into Syria to help the embattled opposition.

The 27 EU nations agreed

everything possible should be done to control any exports and make sure they do not fall into the hands of extremists or terrorists.

"Member states shall require adequate safeguards against misuse of authorizations (for export)

movement and not a war movement," Austrian Foreign Minister Michael Spindelegger said.

In the end, Austria agreed with the text which "took note" of the commitment of member states to consider at a national level

and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov over the issue.

The EU talks had been billed as a pivotal opportunity for the bloc to overcome differences about whether to ease sanctions against Syria to allow arms



British Foreign Secretary William Hague, left, talks with Belgium's Foreign Minister Didier Reynders, during the EU foreign ministers meeting, at the European Council building in Brussels, Monday, May 27, 2013. The European Union nations remain divided on Monday whether to ease sanctions against Syria to allow for weapons shipments to rebels fighting the regime of Syria's President Bashar Assad. (AP Photo/Yves Logghe)

granted," the joint EU text said. Austria had been holding back a joint decision, insisting no arms should be sent abroad.

"The EU should hold the line. We are a peace

sending arms to the Syrian opposition.

French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius left the talks earlier Monday to return to Paris to meet with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry

shipments to the rebels. France added urgency to the debate, with Fabius pointing to increasing signs that chemical weapons were being used in the conflict. □

Spain: Bodies of missing Dutch couple found in a lemon grove

CIARAN GILES

Associated Press

MADRID (AP) — Police have found two bodies they believe to be those of missing former Dutch national volleyball star and her partner, the Interior Ministry said Monday. Three suspects have been arrested in connection with the apparent killing of the couple.

The bodies were found in a lemon grove Sunday and "all signs indicated" they are those of Ingrid Visser, 35, and her partner, Lodewijk Severein, 57, Joaquin Bascunana, an Interior Ministry official in the southern Murcia region, said. The corpses were buried at a shallow depth and Bascunana said forensic tests were continuing.

There were no immediate details on the cause of death or possible motives. The couple was last seen May 13 when they left a hotel in the city of Murcia.

A doctor with whom they had an appointment the next day notified police when they failed to appear. The couple's families said police had informed them and although identification was still in progress they were shocked by the news. A poster and Internet campaign had been started in the hope of finding the couple. Bascunana said investigations initially led police to a house in the Murcia town of Molina de Segura where the couple was apparently killed, and the bodies were later taken to Alquerias. Police arrested a 36-year-old Spaniard on Saturday in the eastern coast city of Valencia, about 400 kilometers (250 miles) north of Murcia. A ministry statement Monday said two Romanians aged 47 and 60 were later arrested, also in Valencia, and are suspected of having carried out the killings.

Visser holds the record number of appearances — more than 500 — for the Dutch team. She played for local team CAV Murcia from 2010-2012. □

Military exemptions threaten Israeli coalition

IAN DEITCH

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — The leader of Israel's second largest party warned Monday that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's ruling coalition could collapse if it fails to reform the military draft system and end exemptions for ultra-Orthodox Jewish seminary students.

Finance Minister Yair Lapid made the threat after a committee meeting tasked with changing the draft rules ended without results. Lapid's party surged in January's parliamentary election by vowing to

force the ultra-Orthodox to "share the burden" of military service.

Military service is compulsory in Israel from age 18, but thousands of ultra-Orthodox Jews get exemptions each year to pursue religious studies. The ultra-Orthodox insist military service would compromise their strict religious lifestyle, while Israelis who serve in the military charge that the system is unfair.

"Whoever thinks that Yesh Atid will fold on the issue of sharing the burden simply doesn't know us or understand us," Lapid said at a meeting of his party. "There

will be an equal sharing of the burden, or this government will fall apart," he said.

His comments appeared to be an opening salvo in what will likely be a lengthy debate.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said there will be many "headlines and crises" until all the issues are ironed out. But he said that in the end, solutions will be found and the law will be passed.

In the early days of the Jewish state a small core of a few hundred ultra-Orthodox Jewish scholars were granted draft exemptions,

partially in order to encourage scholarship after the great European schools of Jewish thought were destroyed by the Nazis and their collaborators during World War II.

Over the years the numbers of exemptions mushroomed into tens of thousands, and the legitimacy of the scholarly pursuits of so many young people came into question.

A committee tasked with composing draft reforms met late into the night Sunday but ended in acrimony over disputes about penalties for draft evaders and other clauses. □

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Over 60 dead as bombs tear through Baghdad

ADAM SCHRECK
 SINAN SALAHEDDIN
 Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP)—A coordinated wave of car bombings tore through mostly Shiite areas of Baghdad on Monday, killing at least 66 people and maiming nearly 200 as insurgents step up the bloodshed roiling Iraq. The attacks in markets and other areas frequented by civilians are the latest sign of a rapid deterioration in security as sectarian tensions are exacerbated by anti-government protests and the war in neighboring Syria grinds on.

More than 450 people have been killed across Iraq in May. Most of the killings came over the past two weeks in the most sustained wave of violence since U.S. troops left in December 2011.

The surge in attacks is reminiscent of the sectarian carnage that pushed Iraq to the brink of civil war in 2006 and 2007. April was Iraq's deadliest month since June 2008, according to a United Nations tally that put last month's death toll at more than 700.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for Monday's bombings, but they bore the hallmarks of al-Qaida's Iraqi arm. The group, known as the Islamic State of Iraq, frequently uses car bombs and coordinated blasts against Shiites to undermine Iraqis' confidence in the Shiite-led government.

The day's deadliest attack happened when two bombs exploded in the eastern Habibiya area on the edge of the sprawling Shiite district of Sadr City.

Those blasts killed 12 and wounded 35, police said.

Twin blasts also struck an open-air market in the predominantly Shiite al-Maalif area, killing six and wounding 12.

Another car bomb exploded in the busy commercial Sadoun Street in downtown Baghdad. It killed five civilians and wounded 14, police said. Among the wounded were four policemen who were at a nearby checkpoint.

The central street is one of the capital's main commercial areas and is lined with clinics, pharmacies and shops.

Firefighters were seen struggling to extinguish flames as police sealed off the area. Several shops were partially damaged or burned.

"What crime have those innocent people committed?" asked witness Zein al-Abidin. "Who is responsible for these massacres?" Elsewhere across the bloodied capital city, police reported:

— A car bomb went off in the eastern New Baghdad area as officers were waiting for explosives experts to dismantle it. A civilian was killed and nine others wounded.

— In the north, a blast in the Sabi al-Boor neighborhood killed eight civilians and wounded 26. In the Kazimiyah district, a car bomb blew up near a bus and taxi stop, killing four and wounding 11.

Another blast killed four and wounded nine in the Shaab area. And an attack in the Hurriyah neighborhood left five dead and 14 wounded. □



Iraqis gather at the scene of a car bomb attack at a used cars dealers parking lot in Habibiya neighborhood of eastern Baghdad, Iraq, Monday, May 27, 2013. A wave of car bombings tore through mostly Shiite Muslim neighborhoods of the Baghdad area, killing and wounding dozens of people, police said, in the latest outburst of an unusually intense wave of bloodshed roiling Iraq. The blasts are the latest indication that Iraq's security is rapidly deteriorating.

(AP Photo/Karim Kadim)

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Mali sets date for presidential election

BABA AHMED
Associated Press

BAMAKO, Mali (AP) — Mali's government announced on Monday that much-anticipated presidential elections will be held July 28, in a communique that set the dates for the campaign period and a runoff election. The move suggests that the West African country is serious about holding the ballot, despite the fact that the capital of one of the country's northern provinces remains under the control of a rebel group. The ballot would be the first since a coup in March 2012

ousted Mali's democratically elected president just months before he was due to step down at the end of his final term in office.

The coup plunged the country into chaos, creating an opening which allowed extremist groups allied with al-Qaida to seize Mali's northern half. Besides the crucial city of Kidal, which is now under the de facto rule of the rebel National Movement for the Liberation of the Azawad, numerous towns and villages are still not fully under the government's control, making it unclear how they will carry out the

vote. In addition, hundreds of thousands of Malians have been displaced by the fighting and are living in refugee camps in the neighboring nations of Mauritania, Niger, Algeria and Burkina Faso, a further logistical challenge for election organizers. France, which sent more than 4,000 troops to Mali in January to try to free the north, has been aggressively pushing for a quick election in the hopes of restoring the country's constitutional rule. France has announced that it will draw down to 1,000 soldiers before the end of the year. □



Soldiers from Burkina Faso stand guard at the airport in Timbuktu, Mali. Mali's government announced on Monday that much-anticipated presidential elections will be held July 28.

(AP Photo/Baba Ahmed)

Fierce fighting between Sudan troops and rebels

MOHAMED OSMAN
Associated Press

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) — Sudanese government troops clashed with rebels in the conflict-racked state of Southern Kordofan near the border with South Sudan, and each side claimed Monday it inflicted heavy losses on the other. The clashes erupted Sunday in the Dandor area, 500 kilometers (300 miles) west of Khartoum. Southern Kordofan state has been hit by violence for nearly two years, displacing hundreds of thousands of civilians and killing scores. Late Monday, Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir declared that his forces seized back another town

in Southern Kordofan, Abu Karshoulah, captured by rebel fighters a month earlier.

In his nationally televised speech at a large rally in Khartoum, al-Bashir warned his southern neighbor against supporting rebels, calling them "mercenaries" and saying he would cancel all agreements with South Sudan if it continued to support them.

South Sudan broke away from Sudan in 2011 under a 2005 peace treaty that ended decades of war, but disputes remain over their common border, demilitarization and sharing of oil revenues.

"Let them drink their oil," al-Bashir said, in a charac-

teristically fiery speech, implying he would not allow South Sudan's oil to pass through Sudan for export through the Red Sea ports. South Sudan resumed oil production in April this year, 16 months after a shutdown caused by disagreements with Sudan over oil transit fees.

A spokesman for the Sudanese army, Col. Sawarmy Khaled, said government forces clashed with rebels who attacked Dandor, killing more than 70 and seizing two of their tanks. Khaled's statement was published in Sudanese media and quoted by official Radio Omdurman.

He did not mention government casualties. □

Britain police arrest tenth suspect in soldier's slaying

SYLVIA HUI
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — British police arrested a 10th suspect Monday in connection with the vicious street killing of a soldier in London, an apparent Islamic extremist attack that has horrified the country and heightened racial tensions.

The 50-year-old man was detained in Welling, east of London, on suspicion of conspiring to murder 25-year-old soldier Lee Rigby, Scotland Yard said. Police gave no further information about the suspect's identity.

The latest arrest came as more details trickled out about the background of Michael Adebolajo, 28, one of the two main British suspects in Wednesday's slaying. He and Michael Adebowale, 22, were shot and wounded by police at the scene.

Rigby, an off-duty soldier who had served in Afghanistan, was run over by a vehicle and repeatedly attacked with meat cleavers Wednesday afternoon near his barracks in south-east London.

British officials say the two main suspects had been known to them for some time, but revelations that Adebolajo had been arrested in Kenya in 2010 — and claims that British security officials had tried to recruit him as an informer after that — have fueled questions about whether U.K. authorities could have done more to prevent last week's killing.

Adebolajo and Adebowale remain under armed guard in separate London hospitals. Four other men and the suspect arrested Monday remain in custody at a London police station, while one other man has been released on bail. Two women were released without charge in the case.

On Monday, a London-based rights group that lobbies on behalf of suspected terrorists said Adebolajo and his family had contacted it about six months ago complaining

about harassment from Britain's MI5 domestic spy service. A case worker who spoke with him said he appeared "paranoid and erratic," the group said.

"His sister contacted the office to complain about constant harassment from MI5, which extended to Michael, his brother, and his father also," said Moazzam Begg of the London-based group CagePrisoners.

"They were all being approached in different ways," Begg told The Associated Press in a telephone interview. "One of them, he lived and worked abroad. He'd been approached by MI6 (Britain's external espionage agency) at his workplace and had been offered some money. They wanted him to work for them."

Begg said Adebolajo told the caseworker he had been tortured and threatened with rape while in Kenya, and that he had been interrogated for several hours upon his return to London.

Adebolajo refused, he said. Kenyan officials on Sunday said Adebolajo was arrested in Kenya in 2010 with five others near the country's border with Somalia. Police believed that Adebolajo was going to work with the Somali Islamic militant group al-Shabab. Kenyan government spokesman Muthui Kariuki told the AP that Adebolajo, who was carrying a British passport, was taken to court before he was handed over to British authorities in Kenya.

Britain's Foreign Office confirmed that Adebolajo was arrested in Kenya in 2010 and said the agency "provided consular assistance." It was not clear how Adebolajo came to be arrested and how he returned to London. Kenyan officials have denied allegations that he was tortured under interrogation. On Monday, Kenya's police chief David Kimaiyo added confusion by contradicting earlier claims and saying that Adebolajo had "never been arrested in Kenya." □



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US, China set the stage for Obama-Xi summit

C. BODEEN

Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — An upcoming summit with President Barack Obama comes at a "critical juncture" in relations between China and

ture."

In a sign that both sides want to stem a drift in ties, the summit is taking place months earlier than the two presidents were supposed to meet. The setting — at

presidents to work through problems. Though they did not identify those challenges in their public remarks, ties are strained across the board, from longstanding differences over the Iranian

and North Korean nuclear programs to new disputes over cyberattacks and China's more assertive pursuit of territorial claims against U.S. allies Japan and the Philippines.

"The meeting will be an important opportunity for our presidents to have in-depth discussions about U.S.-China relations, and a wide range of global and regional challenges facing both our countries," Donilon said.

That Xi agreed to an informal summit has been seen by Chinese and U.S. experts as positive. His predecessors always preferred formal state visits, splashing images of White House ceremonies and banquets in the Chinese media to bolster their standing as world statesmen.

Good will aside, distrust has deepened in relations in recent years as the U.S. feels its world leadership challenged and China, its

power growing, demands greater deference to its interests and a larger say over global rule setting. Chinese officials and state media regularly say Washington is thwarting China's rise, strengthening alliances in Asia to hem in Beijing and discouraging Chinese investment in the U.S. on grounds of national security.

The official Xinhua News Agency reported Monday that ships and submarines from the Chinese navy's three fleets staged drills in the South China Sea late last week. The area is already a flashpoint, with Beijing's aggressive claims to disputed islands having rattled the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei. On Sunday, Li Keqiang — on a visit to Germany in his first trip abroad as China's premier — pressed China's claim to a cluster of East China Sea islands held by Japan. □



Workers iron a Chinese national flag while a U.S. national flag is placed in front of a Chinese traditional painting before a meeting between U.S. National Security Adviser Tom Donilon and Chinese State Councilor Yang Jiechi at Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing, China, Monday, May 27, 2013.

(AP Photo/Alexander F. Yuan)

the U.S., Chinese President Xi Jinping said Monday, underscoring the challenge they face in confronting divisive security issues and overcoming growing distrust.

Xi told U.S. National Security Adviser Tom Donilon — who was in Beijing to prepare for the June 7-8 meeting — that he expected positive results from the talks, which will be their first face-to-face meeting since Obama's re-election and Xi's promotion to head of the Communist Party last November.

"The current China-U.S. relationship is at a critical juncture," Xi said. The sides must now "build on past successes and open up new dimensions for the fu-

ture." In a sign that both sides want to stem a drift in ties, the summit is taking place months earlier than the two presidents were supposed to meet. The setting — at the private Sunnylands estate of the late publishing tycoon Walter Annenberg in southern California — is supposed to be informal, giving Xi and Obama a chance to build a rapport. Donilon flew to Beijing this week to prepare an agenda and straighten out other technical issues. He told Xi that Obama is "firmly committed to building a relationship defined by higher levels of practical cooperation and greater levels of trust, while managing whatever differences and disagreements might arise between us."

Meeting earlier with State Councilor Yang Jiechi, China's senior foreign policy official, Donilon said the summit is a chance for the two



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Venezuelan voice of dissent fades

**C. TOOTHAKER
KARL RITTER
Associated Press**

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuela's only TV channel that has been openly critical of the socialist government was in turmoil Monday after a popular talk show host was fired and the opposition's leader said he was being denied live coverage. Changes in Globovision's editorial line had been expected after new owners took over the broadcaster earlier this month and signaled they would tone down the channel's confrontational stance. But there had been no sign of a sharp deviation from Globovision's anti-government line until Henrique Capriles, who emerged as the chief political rival to the dying President Hugo Chavez last year, said Sunday that the channel no longer allowed live broadcasts of his speeches. Prior to this year's presidential election, which Capriles narrowly lost to Chavez's hand-picked successor, Nicolas Maduro, Globovision often carried live speeches by the opposition leader that were ignored by state media. Another sign of the editorial shift came Monday when Francisco "Kico" Bautista, a popular talk show host, said he was fired for questioning Globovision's new leadership. "This is a country of dreams and it deserves a government and a democracy that is better than what we have," Bautista said at a news conference. "It cannot be that what you dream of is the life that we have, where there's not even toilet paper," he said, referring to chronic shortages of basic necessities. Globovision did not immediately answer a request for comment, though its legal consultant, Ricardo Antela, tweeted Monday that he would advocate preserving an editorial line "independent of the government and other interest groups." Antela also said he would attempt to fight for "the

rights of citizens to receive truthful and opportune information, and opinions, without censorship." Raimundo Urrechaga, an information ministry official, did not respond to an email seeking comment on Capriles' allegation that Globovision's new owners were pressured by authorities to prohibit the broadcast of his live speeches. Critics lashed out at the channel on social media

strictive measures to gradually weaken the country's private news media. Concerns have mounted over more tightening under Maduro. Little is known about the political affiliation of the Venezuelan businessmen who bought a majority stake in Globovision earlier this month, Juan Domingo Cordero, Raul Gorrin and Gustavo Perdomo. In a series of tweets,



Talk show "Good Nights" host Franciso Bautista speaks during a news conference at his home in Caracas, Venezuela, Monday, May 27, 2013.

(AP Photo/Fernando Llano)

and wondered whether it would fire other editorial staff members who criticize the government. Globovision's Twitter account, one of Venezuela's most popular, was losing 10,000 followers by the hour Monday. Tinedo Guia, president of Venezuela's largest journalists association, said he asked for a meeting with Globovision's new owners to find out "first-hand what editorial line they want to pursue." A major change would mean "that democracy is finished in Venezuela, that everything will go down one single road ... The government can impose its editorial line on all stations, besides those it controls," Guia said. Press freedom activists had criticized Chavez, who died in March, of taking re-

Capriles said they are linked to the government, calling them "enchufados" — people with political connections. Capriles routinely uses the term in a denigrating way against the representatives of officialdom in Venezuela. After a meeting with Maduro last week, Cordero said Globovision would remain a news channel, but would also work to reduce conflict and promote peace in Venezuela. "We will transmit the news, exclusively the news, and telling the truth," he said. Signaling a less confrontational stance against the government, he said: "You know the reasons why Globovision didn't come to this palace (under the previous owners). That's not going to happen again with Globovision." □

Chile Communists back Bachelet for president

**EVA VERGARA
Associated Press**

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — Chile's small Communist Party on Monday officially announced its support for socialist Michelle Bachelet's candidacy to regain the presidency. Party leader Guillermo Teillier announced the pact after meeting with Bachelet, who was Chile's president from 2006 to 2010 and is now the front-runner for the Nov. 17 vote. Communist and other leftists were considered enemies of the state during Chile's 1973-90 military dictatorship, when thousands of people were killed and disappeared for their politics. Since Chile's return to de-

mocracy in 1990, the Communist Party has remained in the opposition and has banded with other leftist groups rather than join Bachelet's coalition. As a candidate, Bachelet had been looking for the backing of Communists by echoing their demands for education and constitutional revisions in the face of mounting protests clamoring for a wider distribution of Chile's copper wealth, the protection of the environment and free schooling. □ "They have decided to support a collective project that seeks to advance toward a more inclusive and fair country," Bachelet said about the Communists' support. □

Honduran president says he supports a gang truce

**ALBERTO ARCE
Associated Press
TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP)**

President Porfirio Lobo said Monday that he is backing efforts to arrange a truce between the country's two largest and most violent gangs. Lobo told The Associated Press that he has called Roman Catholic Bishop Romulo Emiliani of San Pedro Sula to offer his support in bringing peace to Honduras, which has one of the highest homicide rates in the world. The bishop has been acting as a mediator between the Mara Salvatrucha and 18th Street gangs. He said last week he expects the gangs to sign a truce Tuesday and ask for talks with the government to help them start leaving their gang lifestyle. "We have to look for anything that's an alternative to violence, and on the part of the government, we are open to any process that can lower violence," Lobo said in the interview. Lobo said he is putting himself at Emiliani's disposal "to

do whatever is necessary," adding that he has faith in the bishop's initiative. Emiliani said last week when announcing the truce that the gangs need government help to stop charging protection fees to finance their war with each other and that authorities should try to turn Honduras' prisons into rehabilitation centers. The gangs are also expected to issue a public apology. Honduras is following the example of El Salvador, where leaders of the same gangs agreed last year to a truce that sharply lowered the number of violent deaths. According to reports from Salvadoran public security authorities, homicides have dropped about 52 percent in the 14 months of the truce. Adam Blackwell, the Organization of American States' ambassador for security affairs, said the dialogue with the Honduran gangs started eight months ago, when he and Emiliani visited prisons in San Pedro Sula and Tegucigalpa and met with members of both groups.



Tamia puts a move on our hearts, D'Angelo rocks Soul Beach



ORANJESTAD - Saturday night was the first night of concerts at the 12th edition of the Soul Beach Music Festival. The night's festivities started with local super band Claudius Phillips and Oreo and closed with the rock-and-Neo-soul show of D'Angelo. Sandwiched between the end acts of Saturday night was Canadian R&B artist Tamia.

The King of Aruba Carnival and one of the Dutch Caribbean's most popular showman, Claudius introduced himself to the slowly growing crowd with a hearty Aruba welcome and a heavy dose of his his own hits_ be it in the local language Papiamentu, Caribbean English or just plain ol' English, the crowd was tuned into a whole

new sound: Claudius' Caribbean Soul. Immediately following the set, and much to the surprise of the crowd, Sinbad appeared onstage and emceed almost a full comedy set. Those who were fortunate and arrived by Friday afternoon had the opportunity the Friday Night Comedy Show featuring Sinbad and comedy show with Sinbad perform Friday night at the Entertainment Center.

Delivering one of the best sets ever at the Soul Beach Music Festival, Tamia was a wonderful surprise. No pun intended but she was the centerpiece of the night. The set was well-balanced with most of the crowd singing her uptempo songs as well as her ballads.

She was engaging and fans were charmed by her. It was a little less than two decades ago that D'Angelo was crowned the prince of neoSoul. From the time his group performed

the riff from Tower of Power's "What Is Hip" he was amped up. Going through highly charged rock -and-soul with a faster, edgier version of his calling card song, "Brown Sugar." The set finally slowed and it was him, the keyboard and the crowd. His finished his set playing solo with a riveting rendition of "Cruising," "How Does It Feel" and closing with "Lady."

-Written by Richard Brooks



Marlene & Jan say "I Do" on board the Jolly Pirates!



BOCA CATALINA – Much appreciated executive chef Jan Scherrenburg and his popular sweetheart, local resident Marlene Nichols held their commitment ceremony on board the Jolly Pirates this weekend, with over 50 family members and friends, from all over the US and from Aruba, in attendance. The ceremony was officiated by Marlene's wise and loving sister expressing everyone's wish for the

couple's ever-lasting joyful union. The 85ft teak schooner anchored at Boca Catalina for the ceremony, and as soon as wedding rings were exchanged, and the deal sealed with a kiss, guests jumped into the clear water, and indulged their passion for cocktails, potent pirate's punch and home-made hors d'oeuvres. The party continued with a champagne toast on Moomba's beach at sun-



Beauty On The Beach

Tendresse Fritsch

She is from Hengelo, Holland. This is her first time in Aruba, she is staying with locals for one month. She loves the Beach.

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Expectations for 2013 for Aruba Airport

ORANJESTAD - Whilst it appears that a major worsening of the Eurozone crisis has been averted, many South European countries remain or are possibly entering into a deep recession. With the exception of Europe, IATA, however, has reported that passenger growth has been growing since October 2012 at double the trend of the first three quarters of 2012 and that demand growth is accelerating on the back of stronger business confidence, particularly in emerging regions. Airlines are carefully managing capacity expansion, keeping load factors at record high whilst facing persistently high oil prices. Cargo recovers modestly through an increase in demand that began in the fourth quarter 2012. It is expected that this growth will pick up moderately as the year progresses. Projections as to pas-

senger demand are, with the exception of European carriers, however more optimistic and IATA forecasts passenger demand to grow 4.5% globally. Substantial differences per region are however again likely to occur, where expectations for the Latin American market continue to be positive, whilst the North American market is expected to show the strongest growth within the developed economies and further benefits are expected from airline consolidation. The budget sequestration in the US could however negatively impact the outlook. Europe is expected to remain flat. Management expects this outlook generally to coincide with Aruba's traffic from North America and Latin America, which is in fact a continuation of the pattern since 2011. Europe however is expected to



decrease whilst Caribbean traffic depends largely on capacity offered. Again, the Latin American traffic will be heavily influenced by government measures and the presidential elections in Venezuela. This impact on passenger volumes will continue to be

substantial as Venezuela's share in total traffic to/from Aruba is still approximately 13% (2012). Another uncertain effect is represented by the future performance of start-up airlines Insel Air Aruba, Aruba Airlines and the fleet expansion, if any, of Tiara Air.

The resulting traffic growth for Aruba is under these circumstances expected to be approximately 4.5%, in line with IATA's expectation. The Board of Directors expects to conclude 2013 with a net result comparable with that of 2012. □

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Russia's Maria Sharapova returns against Su-Wei Hsieh of Taipei in their first round match of the French Open tennis tournament, at Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Monday, May 27, 2013.

Associated Press

Sharapova wins; Slow start for Nadal

AP Tennis Writer

PARIS (AP) — Rafael Nadal knows this story well. All too well. Saw it up close the previous time he played in a major tournament, actually. Early round, main stadium, unknown opponent taking risky swings and putting everything in. At Wimbledon nearly a year ago, it was 100th-ranked Lukas Rosol who took it to Nadal and beat him in the second round. At the French Open on Monday, in Nadal's return to Grand Slam action after missing seven months with knee trouble, it was 59th-ranked Daniel Brands in the guest-star role. Like Rosol, Brands is 6-foot-5 and lanky. Like Rosol, Brands employed a go-for-broke style and was hitting big. And for one whole set and most of the next during a first-round match in Court Philippe Chatrier, against the most successful man in Roland Garros history, it worked.

Continued on next page



Sharks win to force a Game 7

San Jose Sharks center Joe Thornton (19) celebrates with teammate San Jose Sharks center Patrick Marleau (12) after scoring a goal against Los Angeles Kings during the first period in Game 6 of their second-round NHL hockey Stanley Cup playoff series in San Jose, Calif., Sunday, May 26, 2013.

Associated Press
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Rogers first openly gay man in U.S. pro sport

BETH HARRIS

AP Sports Writer

CARSON, California (AP)

— Robbie Rogers became the first openly gay man to play in a U.S. professional league when he made his debut with Los Angeles Galaxy in Major League Soccer on Sunday.

Rogers entered as a substitute in the 77th minute with the Galaxy leading the Seattle Sounders 4-0, which turned out to be the final score.

"I guess this is a historic thing, but for me it was just a soccer game," Rogers said. Nerves began getting the best of Rogers in the hours before he left home for the stadium, not because he was anxious about being the first openly gay player but because he was rusty after time out of the sport.

He called his sister for reassurance. "I just needed to hear someone's voice," Rogers said. "We were talking about my dog. Just get my mind off things."

He received loud cheers from the crowd of 24,811 as he ran onto the pitch, with fans chanting his



Spain's Rafael Nadal returns against Germany's Daniel Brands in their first round match of the French Open tennis tournament, at Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Monday, May 27, 2013.

Associated Press

name. Rogers ran by teammate Landon Donovan, who slapped his hand and patted him on the back as he took his position.

"Because of the nature of the way sports has been

for so many years — the macho culture that's been embraced by everybody — it's of interest to everybody," Donovan said.

"Now, hopefully, the hype about it is over and he can

get back to being a soccer player, which is what he wants to do."

Rogers spent the past two seasons in England with Leeds United and a loan spell at Stevenage.

Initially he retired from the sport after coming out on a blog post in February, but has been training with the Galaxy since last month at the invitation of coach Bruce Arena. □

French Open

Continued from Page 17

Nadal already owns a record seven French Open titles, including the past three. His bid to become the only man with eight championships at any of tennis' quartet of most important tournaments got off to a slow start, before he restored order by coming back to beat a faltering Brands 4-6, 7-6 (4), 6-4, 6-3.

"He was trying to hit every ball as hard as he can," Nadal said. "He made me suffer, I can tell you."

There was no such struggle for the tournament's other defending champion, Maria Sharapova, who needed all of 54 minutes to overpower 42nd-ranked Hsieh Su-wei of Taiwan 6-2, 6-1. Or for 2011 women's titlist Li Na, a 6-3, 6-4 winner against Anabel Medina Garrigues. Or for 2010 champion Francesca Schi-



Spain's Rafael Nadal returns against Germany's Daniel Brands in their first round match of the French Open tennis tournament, at Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Monday, May 27, 2013.

Associated Press

avone, who also won in straight sets. Or No. 4-seeded Agnieszka Radwanska, last year's runner-up at Wimbledon, who kept pace with her younger sister Urszula — producer of a three-set victory over Venus Williams a night earlier — by eliminating Shahar Peer 6-1, 6-1.

Li and Radwanska both play Americans next. Li goes up against Bethanie Mattek-Sands, who got past Lourdes Dominguez Lino of Spain, part of a 6-1 day for U.S. women, including wins by No. 17 Sloane Stephens, No. 29 Varvara Lepchenko, Melanie Oudin, Vania King and

Madison Keys.

The older Radwanska will now face Mallory Burdette, who won her French Open debut Sunday. Asked what she knew about her second-round opponent, Radwanska smiled.

"To be honest, not much. Nothing at all, actually," Radwanska freely admitted. "I might Google her." In other Day 2 action, French wild-card recipient Gael Monfils surprised No. 5 Tomas Berdych 7-6 (8), 6-4, 6-7 (3), 6-7 (4), 7-5, while Australia's Nick Kyrgios, at 18 the youngest player in the men's draw, made a successful Grand Slam debut by eliminating 34-year-old Radek Stepanek 7-6 (4), 7-6 (8), 7-6 (11).

Most of the attention and buzz, though, was about the way Brands-Nadal began. Brands' strategy was right out of Rosol's playbook: Keep points short and aim for the lines.

"That's the way. If you

give Nadal time, there's no chance. You have to be aggressive. That's my view," Rosol, who's now ranked 36th, said after winning his French Open match Monday. "If other players play aggressive against him, that's the only way to beat him."

Toni Nadal, who is Rafael's uncle and coach, saw similarities with the last time his nephew played at a Grand Slam. "Yes, it was a little the same," Uncle Toni said. "Against Rosol, in the fifth set, we couldn't do anything." But when a reporter wanted to know whether there's a pattern being established as to the type of foe who can bother Rafael, Toni shrugged that off, replying: "When you play against an opponent who serves really well, who puts in a high percentage of first serves, and who hits balls really fast, it's complicated for everyone — not just for Rafael." □

Harvick pulls away to win Coca-Cola 600

AP Sports Writer

CONCORD, North Carolina

(AP) — Closing a bizarre night in NASCAR's longest event, Kevin Harvick pulled away from Kasey Kahne on a restart with 11 laps left to win the Coca-Cola 600 on Sunday at Charlotte Motor Speedway. The race was stopped for nearly 30 minutes at one point when a TV camera support rope snapped and landed on the track and in the grandstands. There were 10 people hurt, according to Charlotte Motor Speedway. Three were taken to hospitals, and have been treated and released.

It's Harvick's final season at Richard Childress Racing — the only team he's known since filling the seat of the late Dale Earnhardt in 2001 — before he switches to Stewart-Haas Racing in 2014.

Harvick's already shown

with a victory at Richmond this year he wouldn't coast through the year and proved that again as he made it through the broken rope, several crashes and Kahne's dominant machine that led a race-high 156 laps. There was no other course for Harvick than giving his all, saying he and Childress "have really focused on what's most important for our sponsors and the guys on this team and this organization."

Harvick's pulled off an unlikely win here in 2011, sweeping past an out-of-fuel Dale Earnhardt Jr. on the final lap. "Last race (2011) we came off turn two in third and by the time we got to the start-finish line we had won the race," he said. "It was one of those nights," he said, "where you have to grind it out and keep

Kahne finished second, Kurt



Kevin Harvick raises the trophy in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Sprint Cup series Coca-Cola 600 auto race at Charlotte Motor Speedway in Concord, N.C., Sunday, May 26, 2013.

Associated Press

Busch third and polesitter Denny Hamlin was fourth in his second full race since returning from injury.

Kahne had the strongest car, quickly moving back to the front each time he fell back. He had a large

lead and lots of open track when the final caution flag came out with 16 laps remaining. □

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CASINO AND SHOPS

NHL Playoffs Roundup

Sharks beat Kings 2-1 to force Game 7

SAN JOSE, California (AP)

— Buoyed by a loud crowd and another early power-play goal, the San Jose Sharks beat the Los Angeles Kings 2-1 on Sunday to square the series and force a decisive seventh game in their NHL Western Conference semifinal.

Joe Thornton got San Jose off to a fast start with a power-play goal in the first period and T.J. Galiardi added a goal in the second as the Sharks matched Los Angeles' three home wins in this series with a third of their own.

Dustin Brown scored the sole goal for Los Angeles, which will host Game 7 on Tuesday.

"We wanted this opportunity," said Joe Pavelski, who set up Thornton's goal. "We wanted to go play. We feel like we've played some good games there before. It's been a while since we've won, so we're due."

Los Angeles, the defending Stanley Cup champion, has lost 11 of 12 road games but has been un-



San Jose Sharks defenseman Brent Burns (88) is tripped by Los Angeles Kings center Mike Richards (10) during the first period in Game 6 of their second-round NHL hockey Stanley Cup playoff series in San Jose, Calif., Sunday, May 26, 2013.
Associated Press

beatable at home, winning all six playoff games and 13 straight since the end of the regular season. "It's followed the script. Home team wins back and forth," Sharks coach Todd

McLellan said. "It's time for us to get there and try to change the story. We're going to have to play a much better game than we did last time in that building. But they earned

the right for home-ice. It's our job to take it away from them."

Another part of the script has been the tightness of every game of the series, and Kings defenseman

Rob Scuderi said there was little to separate the teams. "I'm sure it's not a shock it's come to a Game 7," Scuderi said.

"I'm sure both teams didn't want it to go this far. Right now, it doesn't matter how we win it, just that we win it."

After taking a 1-0 lead early, the Sharks went more than 15 minutes without a shot before regaining their stride early in the second period.

Galiardi beat Quick with a wrist shot from the faceoff circle for his first career playoff goal to make it 2-0 and San Jose had a chance to break the game open when Justin Williams was sent to the box for a double-minor high-sticking penalty.

But goalie Jonathon Quick and the Kings killed off all 4 minutes of power-play time and then got back into the game with just over 6 minutes left in the second when Brown banked a shot from behind the goal line off Antti Niemi and into the net. □

NL Capsules

Strasburg outlasts Hamels as Nats top Phillies 6-1

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a showdown of aces with disappointing records, Stephen Strasburg and Cole Hamels matched each other until the Washington Nationals scored five runs in the seventh inning of a 6-1 win over the Philadelphia Phillies on Sunday. Strasburg (3-5) allowed five hits in eight innings, walked none and struck out a season-high nine, giving up a run in the eighth on his first big league balk.

Making his latest no-support start, Hamels (1-8) struck out six and allowed only three hits through six innings. Ryan Zimmerman's infield single started a rally that included a pair of errors and Steve Lombardozzi's two-run double. Hamels has lost five straight starts, has had only 20 runs

of support scored all season when he's been in the game and hasn't pitched with a lead since April 7. CUBS 5, REDS 4, 10 INNINGS CINCINNATI (AP) — Alfonso Soriano hit a tying two-run homer in the eighth inning and Wellington Castillo had a go-ahead double in the 10th, helping the Cubs rally from a four-run deficit in a win over the Reds that stopped a season-high, six-game losing streak. Soriano singled in the seventh and scored Chicago's first run off Johnny Cueto on Luis Valbuena's two-out single.

Anthony Rizzo hit an RBI double against Logan Ondrusek in the eighth — his third double in two games — and Soriano followed with his fifth homer of the season and first since May 13, a 394-foot drive to left-

center.

J.J. Hoover (0-4) walked Scott Hairston with two outs

1 1-3 hitless innings, stopping the Reds' five-game winning streak.



Washington Nationals' Ryan Zimmerman (11) slides safely into home as Philadelphia Phillies catcher Humberto Quintero cannot handle the throw during the seventh inning of a baseball game at Nationals Park, Sunday, May 26, 2013, in Washington. The Nationals won 6-1.
Associated Press

in the 10th, and Castillo followed with his double into the left-field corner. Kevin Gregg (1-0) pitched

METS 4, BRAVES 2 NEW YORK (AP) — Ike Davis busted out of his prolonged slump with a tiebreak-

ing single in the eighth inning and the Mets rallied past the Braves to end an eight-game losing streak at home. Shaun Marcum struck out a career-high 12 and Lucas Duda homered for the Mets, who stopped Atlanta's eight-game winning streak and avoided a three-game sweep. The Braves had won 15 of 18 against New York and five in a row at Citi Field.

Pinch-hitter Justin Turner led off the eighth with a single against Cory Gearrin (1-1). David Wright struck out but Duda punched a ground-rule double to left and John Buck's run-scoring single tied it at 2.

Pinch-hitter Mike Baxter was hit by a pitch to load the bases for Davis, who pulled a two-run single through the right side for a 4-2 Mets lead. □

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NBA Playoffs Roundup Heat offense puts away Pacers 114-96 in Game 3

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The Miami Heat rediscovered its offensive punch and beat the Indiana Pacers 114-96 on Sunday to take a 2-1 lead in the NBA Eastern Conference finals.

LeBron James profited from a tactical switch, scored 22 points and got plenty of help as the Heat reclaimed the home-court advantage they lost two nights earlier. Dwyane Wade had 18 points, and Udonis Haslem added 17.

"I made a conscious effort to get down in the post tonight, to put pressure on their defense," James said. "The coaching staff wanted me to be down there tonight, and my teammates allowed me to do that."

It was a move reminiscent of when the Los Angeles Lakers played Magic John-

son in the post in place of the injured Kareem Abdul-Jabbar during the NBA Finals more than two decades ago.

And it worked just as well. James rebounded from the two late turnovers that cost Miami in Game 2 by scoring 22 points, grabbing four rebounds and dishing out three assists. Hours after Dwyane Wade learned he would only be tagged with a flagrant foul from Game 2 and not a suspension, he finished with 18 points, eight assists and four rebounds. Chris Bosh added 15 points and three rebounds and all five Miami starters reached double figures.

Perhaps that should be expected from a team with so much scoring punch and that has won 23 of its last 24 on the road, but there were more surprising

statistics in other areas.

Miami committed a playoff franchise-low one turnover in the first half and finished with only five. James finished with none.

The Heat shot 54.5 percent against a team that finished the regular season with the NBA's best defensive field goal percentage and also made 24 of 28 free throws.

They matched the highest scoring output in a quarter during this season's playoffs with 34, broke the franchise playoff record for points in a half (70) and fell one point short of tying the third-highest point total in a playoff game in franchise history.

But the biggest difference between the first two games and Sunday's comfortable win was what James' work on the inside.



Miami Heat's Dwyane Wade puts up a shot against Indiana Pacers' Roy Hibbert (55) during the first half of Game 3 of the NBA Eastern Conference basketball finals in Indianapolis, Sunday, May 26, 2013.

Associated Press

"It was something we wanted to get to just to help settle us and get into a more aggressive attack," coach Erik Spoelstra said.

"We wanted to be a little more aggressive, a little more committed to getting into the paint and seeing what would happen. □

MLS Roundup

Sporting KC draws 1-1 to stay above Houston

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Kansas (AP)

— Sporting Kansas City's Kei Kamara scored his first goal since returning from a loan to England, giving the team a 1-1 draw at Houston on Sunday and keeping them above Dynamo in the MLS standings.

Brad Davis scored in first-half stoppage time for Dynamo.

**NEW YORK RED BULLS 2,
COLUMBUS CREW 2**

New York defender Jamison Olave scored in stoppage time to salvage



Houston Dynamo midfielder Giles Barnes, front, celebrates after scoring his game tying goal during the second half of a MLS soccer game, Sunday, April 28, 2013, in BBVA Compass Stadium in Houston. The game ended in a 1-1 tie.

Associated Press

a point against Columbus. Thierry Henry also scored for the Red Bulls, who are unbeaten in seven games; their longest such streak since 2003.

Dominic Oduro scored the first goal for Columbus, and Frederico Higuain appeared to have given the Crew all three points when he converted a penalty in the 74th minute, but Olave settled controlled a cross and ripped a shot high into the left corner of the net.

**LOS ANGELES GALAXY 4,
SEATTLE SOUNDERS 0**

Robbie Rogers became

the first openly gay man to play in a U.S. professional league, making his debut with Los Angeles in the victory over Seattle.

Rogers entered as a substitute in the 77th minute, having only signed with the club on Saturday following two seasons in England.

It was another Robbie who proved the match-winner for the Galaxy, with Irish international Robbie Keane notching his first hat trick in Los Angeles. Sean Franklin also scored for the hosts, who scored all four goals in the first half. □

Babies born after obesity surgery have less health risks

L. NEERGAARD
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Obese mothers tend to have kids who become obese. Now provocative research suggests weight-loss surgery may help break that unhealthy cycle in an unexpected way — by affecting how their children's genes behave.

In a first-of-a-kind study, Canadian researchers tested children born to obese women, plus their brothers and sisters who were conceived after the mother had obesity surgery. Youngsters born after mom lost lots of weight were slimmer than their siblings. They also had fewer risk factors for diabetes or heart disease later in life.

More intriguing, the researchers discovered that numerous genes linked to obesity-related health problems worked differently in the younger siblings than in their older brothers and sisters.

Clearly diet and exercise play a huge role in how fit the younger siblings will continue to be, and it's a small study. But the findings suggest the children born after mom's surgery might have an advantage.

"The impact on the genes, you will see the impact for the rest of your life," predicted Dr. Marie-Claude Vohl of Laval University in Quebec City. She helped lead the work reported Monday in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Why would there be a difference? It's not that mom passed on different genes, but how those genes operate in her child's body. The idea: Factors inside the womb seem to affect the dimmer switches that develop on a fetus' genes — chemical changes that make genes speed up or slow down or switch on and off. That in turn can greatly influence health.

The sibling study is "a very clever way of looking at this," said Dr. Susan Murphy of Duke University. She wasn't involved in the Canadian research but studies uterine effects on later

health. She says it makes biological sense that the earliest nutritional environment could affect a developing metabolism, al-

though she cautions that healthier family habits after mom's surgery may play a role, too.

It's the latest evidence that



A physician's assistant checks a pregnant woman who is three days overdue, at a hospital in Salinas, Calif. New research suggests weight-loss surgery may help break that unhealthy cycle in an unexpected way — by affecting how their children's genes behave.

(AP Photo/Paul Sakuma)

the environment — in this case the womb — can alter how our genes work.

And the research has implications far beyond the relatively few women who take the drastic step of gastric bypass surgery before having a baby. Increasingly, scientists are hunting other ways to tackle obesity before or during pregnancy in hopes of a lasting benefit for both mother and baby.

What's clear is that obesity is "not just impacting your life, it's impacting your child," Duke's Murphy said. More than half of pregnant women are overweight or obese, according to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Monday's research findings may shed some new light. Consider: Overweight mothers have higher levels of sugar and fat in the bloodstream, which in turn makes it to the womb. Fetuses are "marinated, and they're differently marinated" depending on mom's weight and health, said Dr. John Kral of New York's SUNY Downstate Medical Center, who co-authored the Canadian study.

That may do more than overstimulate fetal growth. Scientists know that cer-

tain molecules regulate gene activity, attaching like chemical tags. That's what Laval University lead researcher Dr. Frederic Guenard was looking for in blood tests. He took samples from children born to 20 women before and after complex surgery that shrank their stomachs and rerouted digestion so they absorb less fat and calories. On average, they lost about 100 pounds.

Guenard compared differences in those chemical tags in more than 5,600 genes between the younger and older siblings. He found significant differences in the activity of certain genes clustered in pathways known to affect blood sugar metabolism and heart disease risk.

Only time will tell if these youngsters born after mom's surgery really get lasting benefits, whatever the reason. Meanwhile, specialists urge women planning a pregnancy to talk with their doctors about their weight ahead of time. Besides having potential long-term consequences, extra weight can lead to a variety of immediate complications such as an increased risk of premature birth and cesarean sections. □

'Crack baby' scare overblown, teen research says

LINDSEY TANNER
AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Research in teens adds fresh evidence that the 1980s "crack baby" scare was overblown, finding little proof of any major long-term ill effects in children whose mothers used cocaine during pregnancy. Some studies have linked pregnant women's cocaine use with children's behavior difficulties, attention problems, anxiety and worse school performance. But the effects were mostly small and may have resulted from other factors including family problems or violence, parents' continued drug use and poverty, the researchers said.

They reviewed 27 studies

involving more than 5,000 11- to 17-year-olds whose mothers had used cocaine while pregnant. The studies all involved low-income, mostly black and urban families.

The review, led by University of Maryland pediatrics researcher Maureen Black, was released online Monday in the journal *Pediatrics*.

Widespread use of crack cocaine in the 1980s led to the "crack baby" scare, when babies born to crack users sometimes had worrisome symptoms including jitteriness and smaller heads. Studies at the time blamed prenatal drug use, suggested affected children had irreversible brain damage and predicted

dire futures for them. These reports led to widespread media coverage featuring breathless headlines and heart-rending images of tiny sick newborns hooked up to hospital machines.

"The field of prenatal cocaine exposure has advanced significantly since the misleading 'crack baby' scare of the 1980s," the review authors said.

In recent years experts have mostly discounted any link, noting that so-called crack babies often were born prematurely, which could account for many of their early symptoms. Studies that tracked children beyond infancy have failed to find any severe outcomes.

In some studies included

in the new review, crack-exposed teens had lower scores on developmental tests than other children but their scores were still within normal limits. Many studies found that the children's family environment or violence were directly related to the teen's performance regardless of whether their mothers had used cocaine during pregnancy, the researchers said.

The government's National Institute on Drug Abuse notes that it's tough to evaluate how drug use during pregnancy affects children's development because so many other factors play a role, including prenatal care, mothers' health and family environment. □

Iran's approaching vote brings receding Web access

BRIAN MURPHY
NASSER KARIMI
Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — From a computer keyboard in London, an Iranian emigre plays the role of counselor, social media guru and all-around adviser for Internet users back home seeking ways around the cyber-blocks set up by authorities in Tehran. These have been busy days.

His Twitter account — which goes under the handle of Nariman Gharib — registers a steady stream of calls for help from Iran and responses about new proxy servers, dial-up modems and other possible workarounds. The goal is to defeat Iran's Internet clampdowns, which have intensified in the approach to presidential elections on June 14.

"Here is a new link for Siphon," he wrote, describing a site that directs users to a server outside Iran. Minutes later, replies stream back that it worked on Android systems but not PCs. He sent a tweaked Web address.

"Hope this works," he wrote. State controls on the Internet in Iran are nothing new. Authorities have steadily tried to choke off social media and political opposition sites — among others — since they became tools for protesters alleging vote rigging after President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's disputed re-election four years ago.

Now, with the election to pick Ahmadinejad's successor looming, the constraints are drawing even tighter. Iranian authorities appear to be stepping up their efforts to block the pathways to servers outside Iran that open access to outlawed sites such as Facebook, the BBC's Persian service and websites from what's left of Iran's opposition Green Movement. The Internet squeeze signifies more than a display of widening state controls before an election that is almost certain to bring an establishment-friendly winner. It's also another showcase of Iran's

expanding online prowess led by the powerful Revolutionary Guards.

A special Web-watching corps established two years ago has the mission of patrolling the domestic Internet and fighting suspected cyberwars with the West and its allies. Some say it even creates false activist profiles to try to ferret out dissidents.

Iran is believed by many security experts to be behind computer-virus attacks last year on Saudi Arabian state oil giant Saudi Aramco and Qatari natural gas producer Ras-Gas. Last week, The New York Times reported that Iran is considered a chief suspect in a series of malware breaches into U.S. energy companies, citing American officials and corporate security experts. Iran has repeatedly denied similar claims.

But Iran also has been hit by viruses it claims were launched by the U.S. and Israel. A date-siphoning program known as Flame forced Iran's Oil Ministry to completely shut down its computer system last year. Three years ago, Iran's uranium-enrichment labs were penetrated by a virus called Stuxnet, which was tailored to disrupt Iran's nuclear centrifuges.

On Sunday, Iran inaugurated a 5,000-kilometer (3,000-mile) fiber-optic line running to Germany via Russia. Iran's North Korean-educated communications minister, Mohammad Hasan Nami, said it will boost the "security" of telecommunications as part of Iran's wider efforts to seek a self-contained Internet with its own Google-style search engines and vetted websites such as Twitter and Facebook accounts attributed to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

"Iranian authorities are getting better at controlled cyberspace," said Theodore Karasik, a security and political affairs analyst at the Dubai-based Institute for Near East and Gulf Military Analysis. "But Iran's Internet generation is very

clever at beating them at their own game."

The legions of well-educated and highly Web literate Iranians under 30 are the backbone of a kind of cyber-underground. Names and Web addresses of proxy server sites that allow users to sidestep controls are passed around like hot gossip. Lately, however,

the Arab Spring in the use of social media.

Sites such as Facebook and Twitter — still relatively obscure in the region at the time — were essential to organizing protests and giving accounts of crack-downs after blanket media restrictions were imposed. A YouTube video of a dying protester, Neda Agha

Last week, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry noted "troubling signs" that the Iranian government is cutting off Internet access to stifle criticism of how the candidates were chosen.

"Ultimately, the Iranian people will be prevented not only from choosing someone who might reflect their point of view, but



Iranians surf the web at an Internet cafe, in Tehran, Iran, Monday, May 27, 2013. State controls on the Internet in Iran are nothing new. Authorities have steadily tried to choke off social media and political opposition sites — among others — since they became tools for protesters alleging vote rigging after President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's disputed re-election four years ago.

Associated Press

authorities appear to be gaining the upper hand. Each morning, Hossein Razaei, a mechanical engineer who runs a small engineering company in Tehran, checks up on the best-working path to beat the censors. Sometimes that means scanning banned news sites such as Voice of America or connecting to foreign engineering firms to look at new ideas.

"Nowadays," he laments, "we cannot open many sites."

Iranian authorities have not commented directly on any possible new Web controls. Some lawmakers have suggested that Web restrictions are needed to prevent "enemies" — a reference to U.S. and allies — from influencing the election.

But Iran's leaders certainly have factored in the chaos in 2009, which marked Iran's worst domestic unrest since the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

It also was a precursor to

Soltan, became an iconic image of the demonstrations.

Ironically, the latest apparent Internet pressures in Iran are not reflected in fears of rising opposition linked to the election.

The rejection of former President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani from the ballot seemed to undercut a possible resurgence of reformist fervor after years of arrests and relentless intimidation.

Many liberals and others may now simply stay on the sidelines as most of the eight candidates represent firm loyalists to the Islamic system, including top nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili, former Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and Tehran Mayor Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf. Two relatively moderate candidates, including a former vice president under reformist President Mohammad Khatami, have not yet generated much popular buzz.

also taking part in a way that is essential to a kind of legitimate democracy," he said.

Khamenei said Monday that Kerry's criticisms weren't "worthy enough" to merit a response, according to the semiofficial Fars news agency. Then he vowed Washington would be "punched in the mouth" by a high turnout for the election.

At an Internet cafe in Tehran, a former activist during the 2009 unrest, Mohammad Feizi, spoke in dark tones about an election in which he feels no stake and Internet crackdowns that cut off his main window to the wider world. His old tricks of bypassing the Web controls, he said, are increasingly foiled.

"I am really frustrated," the 27-year-old said. "The government put lethal restrictions on the Internet, yet expects people — particularly the youth — to get involved in society. It is meaningless."

World Markets:

Nikkei sinks again amid mixed signals from central bank

BETTINA WASSENER
HIROKO TABUCHI

© 2013 New York Times

HONG KONG - The Japanese central bank Monday released minutes of a re-

cent meeting that showed some board members skeptical of the bank's own strategy of lifting Japan from deflation, while another big fall in the country's

stock market stoked fears of further volatility in the weeks and months ahead. But European stocks shrugged off the slide on the Japanese stock market

Monday and traded higher as a member of the European Central Bank repeated the bank's commitment to low interest rates. Stock markets in Britain and the United States were closed for public holidays.

In Tokyo, the minutes of the Bank of Japan's policy meeting April 26 revealed a degree of doubt about the bank's ability to inject a healthy dose of inflation into an economy that has suffered from crippling deflation for years.

"A few members" pointed out that the target of 2 percent inflation appeared "difficult to achieve" in the planned time frame of about two years from now, "since it was highly uncertain whether changes in inflation expectations would lead to a rise in the actual rate of inflation," according to the minutes.

Some board members also noted that the bank's aggressive easing policies appeared to have been

perceived by the markets as "contradictory" - comments that highlighted the challenges that the bank and policymakers are wrestling with.

The bank, on one hand, has committed to ending deflationary expectations and sparking an economic recovery by flooding the economy with money, a logical result of which would be rising long-term interest rates. But the bank has also committed to keeping those interest rates in check, partly by buying large amounts of government bonds. That has sowed confusion among market players over whether they should welcome or panic at the recent rise in long-term rates.

On Monday, the Nikkei 225 share average in Tokyo fell 3.2 percent. The decline followed a 7.3 percent slump Thursday, when a rally of about 80 percent since mid-November came to an abrupt end. □



Cyclists pass by an electronic stock board of a securities firm in Tokyo Monday, May 27, 2013. The Nikkei 225 closed down 469.80 points, or 3.22 percent at 14,142.65 Monday after the yen reversed some of its recent fall against the U.S. dollar. Stocks elsewhere in Asia were mixed as investors tried to sort out conflicting indicators about the health of the global economy.

(AP Photo/Koji Sasahara)

Oil falls below \$94 a barrel on US holiday

PABLO GORONDI
Associated Press

The price of oil fell Monday as traders concerned about global energy demand took profits ahead of economic data from China and the United States.

By early afternoon in Europe, benchmark oil for July delivery was down 56 cents to \$93.59 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract fell 10 cents to \$94.15 a barrel on Friday.

Analysts said traders took profits before May unemployment data is released Tuesday in Washington, which should help clarify the state of the recovery in the world's biggest economy.

"We're starting to build confidence in the economic data, but that's not going to stop anyone from taking money off the table ahead of a long week-



Traffic begins to thicken with travelers returning home from Memorial Day destinations on an interstate freeway in Chicago.

(AP Photo/Charles Rex Arbogast)

end," Carl Larry of Oil Outlooks and Opinions said in a market commentary, referring to Monday's Memorial Day holiday in the U.S.

Monday was also a public

holiday in Britain.

The global economic picture was clouded last week by a private survey showing weak Chinese manufacturing. That raised questions

about the strength of oil demand in the world's No. 2 economy.

Qinwei Wang, an economist with Capital Economics, said that recent Chi-

nese indicators suggest that "general economic conditions remain downbeat."

The more closely watched official manufacturing survey is due Saturday, Wang said.

Markets will also be watching Friday's meeting at its Vienna headquarters of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

"We anticipate that OPEC will stick with its official production target of 30 million barrels per day,"

said a report from Commerzbank in Frankfurt. "Saudi Arabia and the other Arab Gulf states see no reason for the moment to comply with the demands of individual OPEC states to implement measures aimed at shoring up prices. Thus the oversupply on the oil market will remain in place for the time being." In April, OPEC's output averaged 30.46 million barrel a day. □

Valeant Pharmaceuticals to buy Bausch + Lomb for \$8.7B

LINDA A. JOHNSON
AP Business Writer

Canadian drugmaker Valeant Pharmaceuticals said Monday that it will pay \$8.7 billion to buy Bausch + Lomb, one of the world's best-known makers of contact lenses, in a massive expansion of Valeant's smaller ophthalmology business. Valeant said the cash deal will help it capitalize on increasing demand for contact lenses and other products because of aging populations, growing demand in emerging markets and increasing rates of diabetes. Complications of the complex blood sugar disorder can damage the eyes over time.

Investment firm Warburg Pincus, which leads an in-

vestment group that owns Bausch + Lomb, will receive \$4.5 billion in cash. The remaining \$4.2 billion will be used to repay Bausch + Lomb's debt.

Reports that the purchase was in the works surfaced late last week.

The deal, which requires approval from regulators and other standard closing conditions, is expected to be completed in the third quarter. It will be financed with debt and about \$1.5 billion to \$2 billion in new stock. Valeant expects to achieve at least \$800 million in annual cost savings by the end of next year.

Rochester, New York-based Bausch + Lomb Holdings Inc. makes contact lenses, eye drugs and

ophthalmic surgical devices. It will keep its name and become a division of Valeant Pharmaceuticals International Inc., which is

excellence and innovation in eye health," Brent Saunders, CEO of Bausch + Lomb, said in a statement. "Bausch + Lomb has un-

a robust pipeline, expanded into new markets and strengthened our relationships with eye care professionals around the world."

Valeant's ophthalmology business will be folded into the new Bausch + Lomb division. The combined global business would have 2013 revenue topping \$3.5 billion on a pro forma basis, meaning the total of sales from both companies' eye care businesses for the full year. Much of that will come from Bausch + Lomb, which anticipates it will have revenue of about \$3.3 billion this year. Bausch + Lomb expects adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization of about \$720 million. □



Canadian drugmaker Valeant Pharmaceuticals said Monday that it will buy Bausch + Lomb, one of the world's best-known makers of contact lenses.

based in Laval, Quebec.

"I am confident that under their stewardship, the Bausch + Lomb brand will continue to stand for

dergone a profound transformation over the last few years," Saunders said. "We introduced innovative new products for patients, built

Trailblazing Israeli electric car company to close

JOSEF FEDERMAN
Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — It was an audacious idea that came to symbolize Israel's self-described status as "Start-Up Nation," a company that believed it could replace most gasoline-powered cars with electric vehicles and reduce the world's reliance on oil — and all within a few years. But it all came crashing down.

The company, Better Place, started out as a source of pride and a symbol of Israel's status as a global high-tech power, but it suffered from a local brand of hubris and overreach. This weekend, it announced plans to liquidate after burning through almost a billion dollars and failing to sell its silent fleet of French-made sedans to a skeptical public.

"This is a very sad day for all of us. We stand by the original vision as formulated by Shai Agassi of creating a green alternative that would lessen our dependence on highly polluting transportation technologies," the company said. "Unfortunately, the path to realizing that vision was difficult, complex and littered with obstacles, not all of which we were able to overcome."

It capped a stunning fall from grace for Better Place and its founder Agassi, a former high-tech whiz kid who sought to change the world by building a revolutionary network of battery-swapping stations.

Agassi, 45, believed that in an era of global warming and rising oil prices, environmentally friendly electric cars could be the wave of the future, if only a way could be found to overcome the limited range of their batteries.

Better Place offered an elegant solution. The vast majority of travelers who commute short distances could plug in their cars at home or work each day to keep their batteries recharged. For longer distances, customers could stop at the swapping stations, remove their used battery and replace it with a fully charged one in a matter of minutes.

Agassi's native Israel was chosen as the company's main laboratory, and a network of several dozen stations was installed, offering travelers nationwide coverage.

Israel was a particularly ideal testing ground, thanks to high fuel prices, a supportive government, its relatively small size and dense population centers.

The cars were expected to appeal to Israel's tech-savvy population, and the ability to weaken the political clout of its oil-rich enemies was an added plus. The project won the support of President Shimon Peres, received generous financial incentives from the Israeli government and an endorsement from former President Bill Clinton.



An electric car is seen during a demonstration of the California-based company Better Place in Tel Aviv, Israel. Better Place announced that it is shutting down, less than six years after unveiling an ambitious plan that promised to revolutionize the auto industry by reducing the world's dependency on oil.

(AP Photo/Ariel Schalit)

Agassi, a former top executive at software maker SAP, became a celebrity CEO. He was a central character in "Start-Up Nation," a best-selling book about Israel's high-tech industry, he was named to Time Magazine's list of the 100 most influential people in 2009 and became a fixture at international con-

ferences such as the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

In roughly five years, Better Place raised some \$850 million from investors like General Electric Co., HSBC Holdings PLC and the European Investment Bank. Israel Corp., controlled by billionaire Idan Ofer, was the largest shareholder. Agassi persuaded French

come we don't want to use oil any more to drive," Agassi told The Associated Press in a 2011 interview. "I can guarantee you that we will finish the need for oil as an energy source for cars before we run out of oil in the ground."

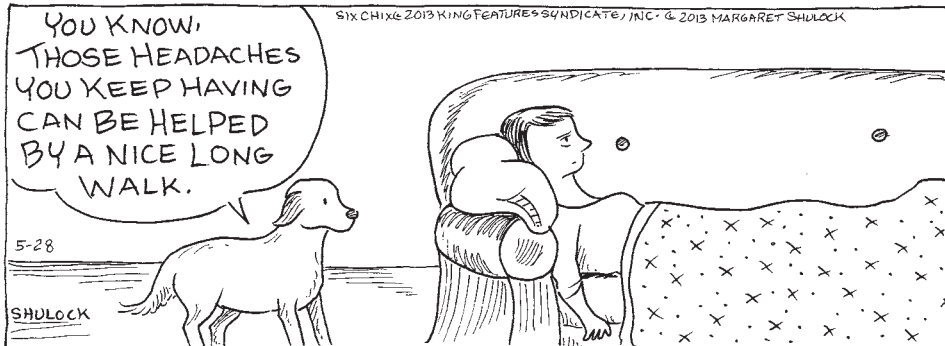
The numbers never panned out. Only about 1,000 Better Place cars are on the roads, and the company ran into trouble with investors. Last October, Agassi was forced to step down, and the company never gained its footing. Reached by the AP on Sunday, Agassi declined comment. Better Place claimed to be the first nationwide network of battery-swapping stations. Other countries, such as Germany, have public networks of charging stations, while in other places, travelers typically recharge their vehicles at home.

For the most part, electric cars have not enjoyed their expected success anywhere. The battery alone in an electric car costs as much as a new gasoline-powered car, and electric vehicles are not selling nearly as fast as once projected. General Motors expected to sell 60,000 Chevy Volts globally last year, but sold just half that many. □

Mutts



6 Chix



SADLY,
JANE CAN'T
HEAR WHAT
GINGER
SAID.

Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	4		2	3	5		6	
5	8						7	1
4			6		7			3
6				5				7
8			4		9			5
3	6						1	8
	7		8	2	1		5	

Difficulty Level ★★

5/28

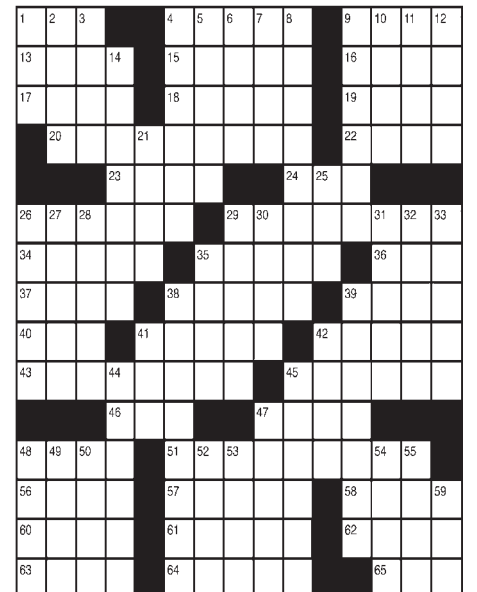
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

9	7	3	4	5	1	2	6	8
4	8	2	6	9	7	3	5	1
6	5	1	3	2	8	7	9	4
7	3	5	1	8	6	9	4	2
8	6	9	5	4	2	1	7	3
2	1	4	9	7	3	6	8	5
5	9	6	2	1	4	8	3	7
3	2	7	8	6	5	4	1	9
1	4	8	7	3	9	5	2	6

ACROSS

- That woman
- Grand English racecourse
- ___ up; become cheerful again
- Dines
- Piece of garlic
- Got ___; took revenge
- Curved beam overhead
- Bird in a Poe poem
- Evergreen
- Rare and interesting occurrences
- Farm machine
- Smooch
- Signal to an actor
- Aristotle and Onassis, e.g.
- Leave one's native country
- Gallant
- Engagement
- Fellows
- Actor John ___
- Travis or Quaid
- Helpful clue
- Two and eight
- Misrepresent
- One defeated
- Teriyaki marinade
- Pen for swine
- Place to stay
- Budapest's nation: abbr.
- Swamp critter, for short
- Fair; unbiased
- Captain in "Peter Pan"
- Ankle
- Ginger-flavored cookie
- Shaping tool
- Shed crocodile tears
- One listed in a will
- Adolescent
- Desert fruits
- Twisted



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/28/13

Monday's Puzzle Solved

DOWN

- Bering or Black
- Angel's instrument
- Carve in glass
- ___-the-board; affecting all
- Closes noisily
- Sheltered bay
- Kiln
- Persistence
- Salt and ___
- Wicked
- City in Nevada
- Recognized
- Israeli dollars
- Athletic shoe brand
- Word of disgust
- Pesky insects
- Juliet's love
- Black wood
- Comedian ___ Kovacs
- Apple pie à la ___
- Haywire; wrong
- Religious belief
- Doorway
- Powder
- Joined together again
- Grossly selfish
- Prohibit
- Dryer residue
- Nauseate
- Handbags
- Terre __, Ind.
- Talk informally
- ___ away; galloped off
- Seep out
- Singer ___ Cass
- Scheme
- Once more
- Lion's den
- Use a crowbar

Singing and laughing with Steve Martin and Edie Brickell

Leslie Gray Streeter

© 2013 Cox Newspapers

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. --

At first glance, they're an odd couple. He's a veteran comedian/movie star/author of urbane fiction turned award-winning banjo player. And she's a sweet-voiced singer/songwriter, a late '80s pop star with jangly folk tendencies and animal activist.

But sometimes, opposites attract, and intriguingly so. And so Steve Martin and Edie Brickell, two semi-old acquaintances, lovers of a novel chord and a charming lyric, and an interesting shared connection to "Saturday Night Live," are music's surprising new hit duo.

Their new album, "Love Has Come For You," has prompted a tour with Martin, Brickell and the Steep Canyon Rangers. The album debuted in May at No. 21 on the Billboard Hot 200 chart and at No. 1 on its bluegrass chart, even though calling it bluegrass somewhat puzzles Martin. "I don't think it is a bluegrass record," Martin says in a thoughtful, funny phone conversation with



Steve Martin and Edie Brickell.

Brickell. "I think some songs are kind of bluegrass, but when I listen to bluegrass stations our record doesn't sound like anything on those stations. A couple of songs could be, but when I look at the whole album overall, I think we're somewhere else, like maybe Americana. Genres are out there created to accommodate albums like

ours."

Well, he's reminded, it is number one on the bluegrass chart, somewhere Martin's actually been before with "The Crow: New Songs for the 5-String Banjo" and "Rare Bird Alert," the latter with the Steep Canyon Rangers.

"So maybe it is!" Martin replies, brightly.

"Maybe," says a laughing Brickell, best known for her work with her band New Bohemians and their hits "What I Am" and "Circle." "But they've adopted a mutt!"

"Love Has Come For You" might be a mutt of decidedly mixed pedigree. It's part bluegrass, folk and pop, and it's gorgeous. Its 13 songs, co-written by the pair, are at turns melancholy and upbeat, and lyrically complex with stories of being uncertain in love or resolute in the dissolution of love. There are references to both email and quaint country dances, stories of single mothers and unrequited longing, even a song about suicide. Like Martin says, it's not easy to classify. Then again, some of the most interesting things aren't.

This odd couple's meet cute story is technically a "meet again" cute story. Martin, a long-time friend of icon and frequent back-in-the-day "Saturday Night

Live" fixture Paul Simon, was a guest at Simon's birthday party, thrown by his wife, who happens to be Edie Brickell ... and who met her husband when the New Bohemians performed in 1988 on "SNL," locking eyes with Simon as she sang.

The party hostess, who had admired Martin's music from afar, "got the chance to express that I was blown away by his songwriting. He seemed genuinely surprised. So I said 'If you ever wanna write a song together, that would be really fun. And he said 'Yeah, I got a tune.' It was really insane."

It turned out not to be all that surprising that Martin would be interested in working with her, as he'd "always known she had a great voice and was a great writer (although) I knew a lot about her earlier records but not too much about what she'd been doing all this time," he says. "I knew she'd been working with The Gaddabouts (a 2011 collaboration with musicians Steve Gadd, Pino Palladino and Andy Fairweather-Low) but didn't know what else she'd been doing."

The song he had in mind, which became "The Sun's Gonna Shine," was originally a melody he'd figured would turn into a Steep

Canyon Rangers song. Other than that "I didn't have a thought in my head what it was going to be. I was waiting for something to hit me. I played it for the Rangers and nothing hit them. So when Edie said something, I thought 'What an interesting idea!'"

That idea, combining Martin's upbeat banjo pickings and Brickell's thoughtful lyrics, is now a seemingly plucky song about a lover's winning looks. Why does it work? They don't know. It just does.

"I had recently just experienced a bit of a dark cloud that was hovering over me," Brickell says. "I was cooking and heard myself saying 'Don't take this so seriously.' And I started singing 'The sun is gonna shine again.' I was sitting with Steve's piece of music and thought 'It sure is!' Everything else fell together. He already had the bridge, and that was my favorite part. It sounded like the sun rising melodically."

Both say this is the first time they've written this way: Brickell's previous songs had come from "jamming with the New Bohemians in the garage or writing something on my own." Martin says, "I'd never worked any way before. (This sort of collaboration) was completely new to me. Then again when I first wrote a play, I thought 'Can I write a play?' and then thought 'Well, I've written a screenplay and stood on stage. Therefore I should be able to put two and two together.'"

He chuckles.

"Although that's not necessarily conclusively true." But in this case it seems to be. The critical and commercial response "has been really, really nice," Martin says. "There are our songs that use the strings and the voice and the banjo that are the most lush, and people really respond to those particular songs. It really impressed something on me. I like that sound. I was a trifle worried that it was so antithetical to real bluegrass."

That's OK, Steve. □

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Chile, Argentina on red alert over Copahue volcano

LUIS ANDRES HENAO

Associated Press

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) —

Chilean and Argentine officials issued a red alert Monday for the increasingly active Copahue volcano bordering the two countries and ordered the evacuation of about 3,000 people.

Chilean Interior and Security Minister Andres Chadwick said the increased activity could lead to an eruption and officials would soon begin evacuating 2,240 people, or 460 families, within a 25-kilometer (15.5-mile) radius.



This photo released by the Government of Neuquen, Monday, May 27, 2013, shows a plume of ash and smoke rise from the Copahue volcano, as seen from Caviahue, in the Argentine province of Neuquen, Friday, May 24, 2013.

Associated Press

Chile."

Copahue registered high seismic activity in December when its ash cloud billowed almost a mile (1.5 kilometers) high.

The volcano had a major eruption in 1992, according to the Chilean Mining Ministry's Sernageomin geology unit. It became highly active with blasts and gases in 2002, in its strongest activity in more than 20 years.

Chile has more than 3,000 volcanoes the Andes and about 500 of them remain active. □

"This evacuation is obligatory; it's not voluntary," Chadwick told reporters. Chile's Emergency Office said the evacuation could last about 48 hours, but could be delayed because of heavy rains.

The nearly 10,000-foot (2,965-meter) sits in the Andes cordillera, overlapping Chile's Bio Bio region and Argentina's Neuquen province.

Argentine officials raised their alert level to red Monday afternoon due to higher seismic activity and ordered the evacuation of about 600 people from the town of Caviahue to the neighboring city of Loncopue.

"The volcano is not erupting yet, but as a preventive measure we've decided to evacuate the population," the Neuquen Crisis Committee said.

"There are no ashes in Caviahue. The vapor plume has descended, but in the last days, seismic activity has increased. That's the reason behind the change of alert in Argentina and

Submerged structure stumps Israeli archaeologists

TIA GOLDENBERG

Associated Press

TIBERIAS, Israel (AP) —

The massive circular structure appears to be an archaeologists dream: a recently discovered antiquity that could reveal secrets of ancient life in the Middle East and is just waiting to be excavated.

It's thousands of years old — a conical, manmade behemoth weighing hundreds of tons, practically begging to be explored. The problem is — it's at the bottom of the biblical Sea of Galilee. For now, at least, Israeli researchers are left stranded on dry land, wondering what finds lurk below.

The monumental structure, made of boulders and stones with a diameter of 70 meters (230 feet), emerged from a routine sonar scan in 2003. Now archaeologists are trying to raise money to allow them access to the submerged stones.

"It's very enigmatic, it's very interesting, but the

bottom line is we don't know when it's from, we don't know what it's connected to, we don't know its function," said Dani Nadel, an archaeologist at the University of Haifa who is one of several researchers studying the discovery. "We only know it is there, it is huge and it is unusual."

Archaeologists said the only way they can properly assess the structure is through an underwater excavation, a painstakingly slow process that can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. And if an excavation were to take place, archaeologists said they believed it would be the first in the Sea of Galilee, an ancient lake that boasts historical remnants spanning thousands of years and is the setting of many Bible scenes.

In contrast, Israeli researchers have carried out many excavations in the Mediterranean and Red Seas.

Much of the researchers' limited knowledge about this structure comes from the sonar scan a decade ago.

Initial dives shortly after that revealed a few details. In an article in the International Journal of Nautical Archaeology published earlier this year, Nadel and fellow researchers disclosed it was asymmetrical, made of basalt boulders and that "fish teem around the structure and between its blocks."



In this April 14, 2011 file photo, a boat is by the jetty of the Capernaum National Park in the Sea of Galilee in northern Israel.

Associated Press

The cone-shaped structure is found at a depth of between three and 12 meters (nine and 40 feet) beneath the surface, about half a kilometer (1,600 feet) from the sea's southwestern shore. Its base is buried under sediment.

The authors conclude the structure is man-made, made of stones that originated nearby, and it weighs about 60,000 tons. The authors write it "is indicative of a complex, well-organized society, with planning skills and economic ability."

The rest is a mystery. Yitzhak Paz, an archaeologist with the Israel Antiquities Authority who is involved in the project, said that based on sediment buildup, it is between 2,000 and 12,000 years old, a vast range that tells little about it. Based on other sites and artifacts found in the re-

gion, Paz places the site's origin some time during the 3rd millennium B.C., or about 5,000 years ago, although he admits the timeframe is just a guess.

"The period is hard for us to determine. No scientific work was carried out there, no excavations, no surveys. We have no artifacts from the structure," Paz said.

Archaeologists were also cautious about guessing the structure's purpose. They said possibilities include a burial site, a place of worship or even a fish nursery, which were common in the area, but they said they wanted to avoid speculation because they have so little information. It's not even clear if the structure was built on shore when the sea stood at a low level, or if it was constructed underwater. □

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'Fast 6' speeds past 'Hangover' to top box office

SANDY COHEN

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The movie industry enjoyed its most robust Memorial Day weekend ever at the North American box office,

with "Fast & Furious 6" speeding to the top spot. The record-breaking four-day weekend generated estimated receipts of \$316 million.

"Over \$300 million for Memorial Day weekend has never happened before," said box office analyst Paul Dergarabedian of Hollywood.com.

"This proves that when you have a great selection of films, audiences will line up at movie theaters in record numbers."

The sixth installment of the "Fast & Furious" franchise debuted at No. 1 with \$120 million, making it the biggest opening weekend for a Universal Pictures release, according to Hollywood.com.



Starring Vin Diesel and Paul Walker, the muscle-car action romp took in an additional \$158 million internationally.

The street racers battle both a tank and a plane in the film.

"It is the very definition of

the summer popcorn movie," Dergarabedian said. "You suspend disbelief, buckle up and go along for that ride."

"The Hangover Part III," starring Zach Galifianakis, Bradley Cooper and Ed Helms, opened in second

place. The final chapter in the Warner Bros. raunchy comedy trilogy collected \$51.2 million.

Paramount Pictures' "Star Trek: Into Darkness,"

which opened last week, added \$47 million to its domestic ticket sales, landing

at No. 3.

Fox' animated "Epic," the only non-sequel among the weekend's five top-grossing films, opened in the fourth spot with \$42.6 million.

"We did see a hole in the release schedule that said this is the perfect time to launch an animated film," said Fox president of domestic distribution Chris Aronson.

"It can be challenging to launch an original-content movie in such a competitive weekend, but this is a very special movie."

Now in its fourth week of release,

"Iron Man 3" — which had the biggest opening so far this year — hung onto fifth place with \$24.4 million.

The record-breaking weekend take bodes well for the summer movie season, Dergarabedian said.

"This Memorial weekend is exactly what the industry needed, and this momentum will carry forward." □



In this Sunday, May 28, 2006 file photo, legendary percussionist Ed Shaughnessy beats the skins of his seven-piece drum set, as he provides the beat for the Eklektik Jazz band at Apodaca Park in Las Cruces, N.M.

Associated Press

Longtime 'Tonight Show' drummer Shaughnessy dies

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Ed Shaughnessy, the jazz drummer who for nearly three decades anchored the rhythm section of Doc Severinsen's "Tonight Show" band, has died in

Southern California. He was 84. William Selditz, a close family friend, tells the Los Angeles Times that Shaughnessy had a heart attack Friday at his home in Calabasas, outside Los Angeles.

The New Jersey native began his jazz career as a teenager, playing with Billie Holiday, Benny Goodman and Count Basie. He replaced Buddy Rich in Tommy Dorsey's band. □

Daft Punk sets Spotify record with new album



NEW YORK (AP) — Daft Punk has set another record on Spotify.

The music service said Monday that the electronic duo's new album, "Random Access Memories," had the biggest number of streams in its first week in the United States. Spotify wouldn't release the number of streams, but Daft Punk beat the 8 million streams Mumford & Sons set with "Babel" last year.

"Random Access Memories" is the Grammy-winning French group's fourth album.

Daft Punk also set a Spotify record last month when its song "Get Lucky" had the biggest streaming day for a single track in the U.S. and the United Kingdom. Since its debut, "Get Lucky" has been streamed more than 27 million times. Spotify launched in 2008. □

In this April 17, 2013 photo, Thomas Bangalter, left, and Guy-Manuel de Homem-Christo, from the music group, Daft Punk, pose for a portrait in Los Angeles.

Associated Press



In this Saturday, May 18, 2013 file photo, Paul McCartney performs during the first U.S. concert of his "Out There" tour, in Orlando, Fla.

Associated Press

McCartney leaves pick on 1st visit to Graceland

MEMPHIS, Tennessee (AP)

— Paul McCartney made his first visit to Elvis Presley's grave and left one of his guitar picks behind. According to the official Twitter account of the former Beatle, McCartney

said the pick was "so Elvis can play in heaven." The lifelong Elvis fan toured Graceland mansion Sunday. McCartney was in Memphis to play a show on the North American leg of his "Out There" tour. □

Affleck gets honorary doctorate from Brown

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island (AP)

— Academy Award-winning actor and director Ben Affleck has received one of six honorary doctorate degrees from Brown University.

Affleck was among artists, writers, scientists and educators to receive the degrees from the Ivy League school at commencement exercises Sunday. He received a doctor of fine arts degree. The Massachusetts native directed, produced and starred in "Argo," which won this year's Oscar for Best Picture.

Others getting honorary doctorates were author and MIT Professor Junot Diaz; retired Stanford University bacteriologist Stanley Falkow; Tougaloo College President Beverly Wade Hogan; medical doctor and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation President Risa Lavizzo-Mourey;



Actor and director Ben Affleck raises his fist after receiving an honorary degree at Brown University's commencement in Providence, R.I., Sunday, May 26, 2013.

Associated Press

and Miami Dade College President Eduardo Padron. The university conferred more than 2,400 degrees Sunday. □

'Spellbound' star reflects on a Spelling Bee life



In this June 3, 1999 file photo Nupur Lala, 14, from Tampa, Fla., reacts upon winning the 72nd annual National Spelling Bee in Washington after correctly spelling "logorrhea."

Associated Press

JOSEPH WHITE

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Of the 85 kids who have won the U.S. National Spelling Bee, only one became an instant movie star.

For the millions who watched back in 1999, her face is frozen in time. She'll always be the 14-year-old girl from Florida with the glasses and dark shoulder-length hair, her arms raised while leaping for joy.

But that was a half-life ago for Nupur Lala. Like all bee winners, she's since had to deal with the perks, drawbacks and stereotypes that come with the title — all magnified because she won the same year the competition was featured in an Oscar-nominated documentary.

She became a role model for those who realized it's OK to be nerdy. She became a trend-setter, starting a run in which 10 of 14 national bee winners have been Indian-American, including the last five.

Today, she's 28 and finishing up a master's degree in cancer biology with plans to enroll in the University

of Texas Medical School in Houston, having changed course from a career plan that had her researching memory and the brain for three years at MIT. She now aspires to be a physician scientist.

"My intellectual inspirations are so meandering. I blame that on the Spelling Bee sometimes," Lala said with a laugh. "There are so many interesting things in the dictionary to study."

Lala will be watching this week when the 86th Scripps National Spelling Bee takes place near the U.S. capital — her friends tease that her life "shuts down" during the bee — but she'll see a spectacle that's changed much since she graced the stage. The finals are now broadcast in prime time. A vocabulary test is being added this year for the first time. And the bee's popularity has skyrocketed, in part because of Lala and the other spellers featured in the documentary "Spellbound," a film that made smart people cool long before the hit TV show "The Big Bang Theory."

"I'm amazed at the sea

change," Lala said in a telephone interview. "Because when I was a speller, that was one thing you totally hid. I remember like not even wanting to tell people what I was doing over the weekend when I was competing in the regional spelling bee. It was that big of a liability. And now I see that, yeah, people want to be nerds. I think that's great."

Lala is the first to say that winning the national bee has been an overwhelming positive in her life, even if it does get tiresome to have people repeatedly asking her to spell her winning word — "logorrhea" — or to realize that her reputation can unfairly put her on a pedestal in an academic setting.

"I've had people say 'I expect more of you because I've seen what you are capable of,'" Lala said. "And that's a huge honor — and also very daunting."

Then there's another set of emotions she feels every year when her name is mentioned by the Indian-Americans youngsters who now dominate the national bee. All of the recent winners, to some degree, have cited Lala as an inspiration.

"It's absolutely overwhelming," she said. "And I think especially as I've grown older and seeing how much I've wanted to emulate people in my life. Yeah, it's very humbling every time I hear that. It feels like a lot of responsibility, to be perfectly honest. You become very conscious of that."

There have also been a disproportionate number of recent winners interested in the brain and medicine, including several who said they wanted to grow up to be neurosurgeons. Lala pursued an undergraduate degree in brain, behavior and cognitive sciences at the University of Michigan, in part because of her experiences from the bee. □

This Is Not 2009



CHARLES M. BLOW
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With the scent of scandal encircling the White House, some Republicans are already licking their chops over the 2014 mid-term elections, while some Democrats are pre-emptively licking their wounds.

Not so fast, folks. Retract those tongues.

While it is impossible to predict what might drive voter attitudes in an election 18 months away, there are quite a few signs that 2014 will be nothing like 2010, which produced tremendous success for Republicans.

First, the electorate is less conservative.

In May 2009, the Tea Party had just begun to flex its muscle and feel its power on a national level. Now, the movement has lost momentum.

An April 2012 Associated Press report included a finding from Theda Skocpol, a Harvard professor, that the number of Tea Party groups had fallen from about 1,000 to about 600. And a Washington Post/ABC News poll released this week found that the portion of people saying they strongly support the Tea Party, just 10 percent, was the lowest they had recorded since 2011.

Furthermore, according to a Gallup poll released Friday, the shares of Americans describing themselves as economic conservatives and social conservatives are down by more than a tenth since 2009, after having risen sharply following Barack Obama's election a year earlier. The portion of Republicans who said their position on economic issues was conservative - the Republican Trojan Horse for a retrograde social agenda - has seen little movement since 2009, dropping just five percentage points, from 75 percent to 70 percent.

(On the other hand, the share of Democrats who describe their positions on social issues as liberal has increased, from 45 percent to 50 percent.)

Speaking of economic issues, the economy is experiencing a resurgence, at least in some quarters. In May 2009, the U.S. economy was nearing the end of the Great Recession.

The unemployment rate had risen to 9.4 percent from 5.5 percent the previous year. People were losing their homes to foreclosures in record numbers.

The Dow Jones industrial aver-

age had fallen to about 8,500 from more than 13,000 the previous May.

And the deficit tripled from the 2008 fiscal year to the 2009 fiscal year, according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office.

This had Americans rightfully worried and near-panicked about their economic prospects. Now the economic picture couldn't be more different.

The unemployment rate has dropped to 7.5 percent. The Dow is above 15,000 and continuing to set records.

The housing sector is rebounding - "Sales of previously owned homes reached the highest level in more than three years, with the share of foreclosure purchases shrinking, as the housing market continued its rebound last month," according to a report Thursday in The Wall Street Journal.

And the deficit is shrinking faster than expected, according to a report released last week by the budget office. The report found that current laws continue unchanged:

"Relative to the size of the economy, the deficit this year - at 4.0 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) - will be less than half as large as the shortfall in 2009, which was 10.1 percent of GDP." This takes almost all of the air out of the Republicans' economic argument.

Lastly, legislative unease has become about what Republicans haven't done, rather than what Democrats have done.

By May of 2009, Obama had already signed the huge - though many still believe not huge enough - stimulus package, Chrysler and General Motors were in need of a bailout and the ball was rolling on the president's historic health care law.

Conservatives were railing against what they saw as an unprecedented, ominous and ultimately ruinous expansion of government, driven by the president and made possible by a Congress controlled by Democrats. Now, the tables have turned. Two of the most glaring legislative failures this year have ostensibly been the work of obstinate Republicans: the failure to avoid the sequester and the failure to pass expanded gun background checks legislation.

According to that recent Washington Post/ABC News poll, most Americans still disapprove of the sequester's automatic spending cuts, and according to a Pew Research Center poll released Thursday, 81 percent of Americans still favor the passage of a bill expanding background checks.

The next hurdle will be immigration reform. But Republicans may find a way to derail that legislation, too.

The signs look positive for Democrats this spring.

This is not to say that they should prematurely lift their glasses, but that they have no reason to prematurely throw up their hands. □



President Obama's Artful Anguish



ROSS DOUTHAT
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President Barack Obama's speech on national security last week was a dense thicket of self-justifying argument, but its central message was perfectly clear: Please don't worry, liberals. I'm not George W. Bush.

You can see why his supporters might be getting nervous on that front.

The continuities between Obama and Bush on national security have always been there for those with eyes to see, but much more attention has been paid to them of late - to the expansive drone campaign that has targeted U.S. citizens for execution without trial, to an anti-leaks campaign that has flirted with criminalizing investigative reporting, and to the perpetual postponement of supposed administration priorities like shuttering the prison at Guantánamo.

Against this backdrop, the president's rhetoric last week was calculated to reassure and soothe. The promises he made in 2008, when he campaigned as a critic of wartime overreach, were revived, reasserted, amplified. He would push anew to close Gitmo ... phase out indefinite detention ... put limits on drone strikes ... safeguard a free press ... even wind down the war on terror. Of course the year is no longer 2008, and Obama has been "the decider" for more than four years now.

Which meant that his address had an air of self-critique that's rare in presidential rhetoric. In the words of Esquire's Tom Junod, one of the most perceptive

writers on Obama's drone policy, the speech didn't just "speak to Americans in the language of moral struggle." It tried to make the president himself "representative of moral struggle," by turning "personal, almost confessional, in its weighing of doubt and its admission of second thoughts." This willingness to grapple with moral complexity has always been one of the things that Obama's admirers love about him, and even liberals who feel disappointed with his national security record still seem grateful for the change from George W. Bush. If we have to have an imperial president, their attitude seems to be, better to have one who shows some "anguish over the difficult trade-offs that perpetual war poses to a free society" (as The New Yorker's Jane Mayer put it Friday), rather than falling back on "the secrecy and winking smugness of the past."

I am not particularly nostalgic for the Bush era either, but Obama's Reinhold Niebuhr act comes with potential costs of its own. Whereas the last president exuded a cowboyish certainty, this president is constantly examining his conscience in public - but if their policies are basically the same, the latter is no less of a performance. And there are ways in which it may be a more fundamentally dishonest one, because it perpetually promises harmonies that can't be achieved and policy shifts that won't actually be delivered.

That's a cynical reading on Obama's speech, but it feels like the right one. Listened to or skimmed, the address seemed to promise real limits on presidential power, a real horizon for the war on terror. When parsed carefully, though, it's not clear how much practical effect its promises will have.

For instance, the president insisted that "history will cast a harsh judgment" on indefinite detention - but proposed no actual plan to deal with Gitmo detainees who (in his own words) "we know have participated in

dangerous plots or attacks but who cannot be prosecuted." He promised that drone attacks would be carried out only amid "near-certainty that no civilians will be killed or injured" - but also suggested, in defiance of much evidence, that this standard was already being met. He pledged to support efforts to "ultimately repeal" the post-9/11 authorization for the use of military force - but offered no timetable to contradict the recent testimony from a Defense Department official projecting another 10 to 20 years of military activity.

Overall, as the Brookings Institution's Benjamin Wittes put it, the speech seemed written to align Obama "as publicly as possible with the critics of the positions his administration is taking without undermining his administration's operational flexibility in actual fact."

There are obviously good reasons to preserve this flexibility. The problem is that by making it sound as if U.S. policy were about to change more than it actually will, the president's rhetoric risks coming across as a bait and switch - on his supporters at home, but more important, on audiences across the Muslim world.

There, this White House's foreign policy, in many ways reasonably successful, has met with its biggest disappointments. Far from abating, anti-Americanism has hardened in many Muslim countries, which presumably reflects disillusionment with the gap between candidate Obama's promises and President Obama's policies.

There is no good reason to over-promise yet again. Where the United States can step back from a wartime footing, we absolutely should. But where we don't actually intend to, we should be forthright about it - rather than pretending that change is perpetually just around the corner, and behaving as though our choices are justified by how much anguish we express while making them. □

Rustic culinary treasures found deep in Rio's slums

JENNY BARCHFIELD

Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Adriana Peixoto would fit right in at the trendiest Rio de Janeiro bar with her hipster glasses and the big black tattoos on her calves. But for a weekend gossip

Christ the Redeemer statue. Now, there's another reason to visit: the growing buzz about the best food and drink the pacified favelas have to offer.

A new Portuguese-language guidebook called "The Gastronomical Guide to the Favelas of Rio" refutes

the food was great, but where the smell from a nearby Dumpster made it untenable," said Bloch over rice and beans at Restaurante 48 in the Tabajaras slum, tucked into Rio's Copacabana neighborhood. "Or sometimes we had problems with the

Twenty-two establishments covering the gamut of food and drink options in Rio's slums made it into the guidebook. They include sit-down restaurants serving Brazilian favorites such as prime cuts of steak and feijoada bean-and-meat stews, as well as foreign specialties-turned-local staples like pizza and sushi. The guide also showcases hole-in-the-wall juice bars, a hot dog stand and an ambulatory singing and dancing empanada vendor named Adriana. In lieu of an address, her entry reads "circulating throughout the community," and provides her cell phone number.

With its view of the Atlantic's azure waters and its low prices, the Bar Lacubaco in the Vidigal slum could give many conventional Rio restaurants a run for their money. In the land of the \$35 martini, where a dinner for two routinely adds up to more than \$200, Lacubaco's main courses are just \$5-\$7 apiece.

Owner Fabio Freire said Vidigal's off-the-grid status helps him keep costs down in what has become Rio's hippest favela, thanks to a prime oceanside location between two of the city's highest-rent neighborhoods.

"I buy my meat from the same suppliers at restaurants down there on the 'asphalt,'" said 38-year-old Freire, using slang for non-

slum neighborhoods. "But I don't pay for electricity, I don't pay for gas and I don't pay property taxes, so all that slashes my overhead and I can pass the savings on to my customers." People in the slums typically illegally tap into the electrical grid to obtain power.

"Foreigners tend to be more open, more curious and harbor fewer prejudices about favelas than Cariocas from the asphalt," said editor Bloch, using the Portuguese term for a Rio resident. "Maybe it's because foreigners weren't exposed to the decades-worth of frightening news about violence in the favelas, they go there with a more open heart."

He said he sometimes hears from Cariocas who are eager to try the traditional shrimp stew known as vatapa at the Barraca das Baianas stand in the Rocinha favela, but "want me to guarantee that nothing will happen to them there."

"Of course I don't think it will, but who can make that sort of guarantee anywhere in the world?" asked Bloch.

Security remains an issue in some pacified slums. Several public schools in Complexo do Alemão were closed in recent days under pressure from a gang upset over the killing of one of their members.

But security seemed to be the last thing on Adriana Peixoto's mind as she and four friends soaked up the beer and sun at a bar in the Chapeu Mangueira favela, near the tony beachfront Leme neighborhood. Motorbikes loaded with teenagers whizzed by, and stray dogs sniffed for crumbs as the group whiled away their Sunday at the Bar do David.

"This is my first time here, and it's great," Peixoto gushed from behind her thick, plastic-framed glasses. "It's as if the favelas, which were always a different world despite being so close to the rest of the city geographically, are finally a part of Rio." □



Plates sit on a table at the Bar Lacubaco in the Vidigal slum in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Twenty-two establishments covering the gamut of food and drink options in Rio's slums made it into a new Portuguese-language guidebook called "The Gastronomical Guide to the Favelas of Rio."

(AP Photo/Victor R. Caivano)

session over beers and seafood paella, the 35-year-old audiovisual producer and her friends settled on a venue that would have been unthinkable just a few years ago: a bar in a "favela," one of the hillside slums that were long ruled by ruthless and heavily armed drug gangs and off-limits to outsiders.

The vast majority of Rio's murders still occur in the favelas, some of which are plagued by sporadic shootouts. But under a five-year-old "pacification" program aimed at making Rio safer ahead of next year's World Cup and the 2016 Olympics, police once kept out now have bases in nearly three dozen of the 1,071 slums dotting the city.

The pacified favelas are the newest hotspots for both locals and foreign visitors, who are spending more time at the former no-go zones than traditional tourist magnets like the

the idea that slum food consists solely of deep-fried snacks by showcasing the people and places behind the shantytowns' tastiest tapioca omelets, greatest grilled chicken, and most scrumptious seafood stews and sushi.

"Food is an excellent tool for breaking down prejudice," said the guide's editor, Sergio Bloch. "For people with lingering worries about danger or prejudice against these places that were impossible to visit for so long, food is a wonderful reason to actually visit a favela."

Bloch and his three researchers visited some 97 establishments in 11 favelas. Like reviewers from the Zagat or hallowed Michelin restaurant guides, venues were judged on food, decor, service and cost.

But Bloch's team often ran into situations no Zagat or Michelin reviewer has likely had to grapple with.

"We went to places where

smell coming from the gutters, which in some favelas are often open-air sewers." While many favelas lack in basic sanitation, they often make up for with breathtaking views of the ocean and exclusive neighborhoods below the steep rocky outcroppings.



A customer eats lunch at Restaurante 48 in Tabajaras slum, tucked into Rio's Copacabana neighborhood in Brazil.

(AP Photo/Victor R. Caivano)